DAILY REPORT

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ALCIVAR SEES 'SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES' FOR PACT

PA271415 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Industries, Commerce and Integration Minister Orlando Alcivar Santos has admitted that the Andean Pact is seriously ill but said we must always hope that it will improve and strengthen. In an exclusive interview with "Ecuador Radio," Minister Alcivar spoke from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, and said the elimination of trade restrictions that affect four of the five Andean Pact members depends almost exclusively on Venezuela's decision in this respect. He remarked that the most important part of this reunion would be the complete elimination of trade restrictions. However, if this does not happen, he said: I am afraid that the Andean Pact will lose even more support among the subregion's citizens.

In reference to possible reorganization of the subregional group, Alcivar Santos said it would be important if the preferential treatment now given to Bolivia and Ecuador became stronger. He added that they could not accept a reorganization of the Andean Pact if it includes the elimination of benefits for the two countries that have a lower development rate.

[Begin recording] [Question] Doctor, how is the meeting coming along in Santa Cruz and what are the chances for the Andean Pact? There is concern in the country concerning the future of the Cartagena Pact.

[Answer] We have just finished hearing statements of businessmen for the subregion. The Cartagena Pact Commission has dedicated over 7 hours to hearing Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadoran, Peruvian and Venezuelan businessmen. This afternoon the board analyzed the statements of each of these businessmen and will later discuss the points in the program and work agenda. I can tell you that the businessmen's statements coincide on several points; for example, all of them affirm that the subregion's businessmen should have fuller participation in adopting decisions for the Andean group. Practically until now, when I suggested they come to the meeting so we could learn about their experience, the businessmen had had almost no participation in the commission.

They also agree in suggesting the reorganization of the Andean group. They have not specified under which terms or how, only the general idea to reorganize the Cartagena Pact. They have also expressed their views on the need to improve transportation in the subregion due to its current problems. They said that communicating among other countries can also be improved as a real catalyst for integration. In this case it is critical for the transportation of cargo and passengers. I could also mention that some viewpoints coincided in saying that the Andean group's creditility will continue deteriorating among the subregion's citizens. It would be better to stop or discontinue its effects to prevent [words indistinct] become worse.

Likewise, practically four of the five delegations agreed that current trade restrictions are paralyzing the flow of trade among the subregion's countries. The ban on imports, high import taxes and authorization of government reserves cause evident damage to the flow of merchandise among the member countries. This might be termed a summary of the statements made during the first day of work, when we have heard 21 businessmen from the 5 countries, representing the main commerce and industry groups.

[Question] Doctor, what is the consensus being achieved within the framework of these conversations?

[Answer] Well, I do not want to predict results because I believe that the elimination of the trade restrictions that affect four of the five countries will depend almost exclusively on the decision that Venezuela takes to open its markets and eliminate the present restrictions, independent from what may happen to the group's organization. Anyway, we will not be able to conclude this in this meeting. We will simply approve guidelines. I beleive that the important thing is to achieve the complete elimination of trade restrictions. If this does not happen, I am afraid that the Andean Pact will lose even more drive and more support among the subregion's citizens.

[Question] You have spoken about reformulation of the Cartagena agreement. Does the country support this opinion, and on what terms?

[Answer] The only limitation we would have, the only reservation we have for the Andean Pact's reformulation is that the preferential treatment that now exists for Ecuador and Bolivia not be suspended but, on the contrary, that it be strengthened and that the allowances granted these two countries, which have not been taken advantage of for lack of market, financing, technical problems and other factors, will not be eliminated. These are our only conditions because we could accept an integral reformulation of the Andean group that included the elimination of benefits for the two least-developed countries.

[Question] Do you believe the Andean Pact will survive?

[Answer] I would rather answer that question after the meeting because I must turn over chairmanship of the Commission session. I would not like to be the one to preside over the Andean group's funeral, should this happen.

[Question] Are we attending the pact's funeral?

[Answer] Let us hope up to the last moment that this will not occur.

[Question] Do you believe the Andean Pact will be less politicized after this series of meetings?

[Answer] That will depend heavily on each of the governments. Naturally, since I represent only one of them, I cannot reply fully to your question.

[Question] In any case, is the Andean Pact very sick?

[Answer] Well, not to admit it would be like closing one's eyes to it. We must have sufficient honesty, sincerity and self-criticism to recognize that it really is sick.

[Question] When will you return to the country?

[Answer] The meetings will last until Friday, and it is very probable that if the conditions exist, the meetings will be extended for another day or so. Therefore, I may not return until Monday or Tuesday.

[Question] We notice that you are skeptical, Dr Alcibar.

[Answer] Realistic rather than skeptical.

[Question] Also a little distrustful?

[Answer] The negotiations are very difficult I must admit. I must recognize that the negotiations will be difficult and complicated, especially if we do not lose sight of the fact that the world and the Andean countries have serious economic and financial difficulties.

[Question] It seems that something has been happening with these integration processes. We noticed that the last OPEC meeting was a failure and the Andean Pact, as you admit, is very sick. What is happening with these agreements, Dr Alcibar?

[Answer] Well, I believe that in some cases countries want to adopt certain measures because they are obliged by their economic situation, which is really distressful. The low prices of raw materials on the international market and the high cost to finance foreign loans by the countries have decreased their capacity to provide for development projects and investments in their countries. As their incomes decrease, every country has to take measures to defend its domestic survival. This affects international agreements in which each of the countries [words indistinct] they have to yield to certain things for the welfare of the common international interest. Evidently, these things break down when abnormal circumstances arise that are as difficult as those of the world today.

[Question] Will Ecuador be the last country to leave the Andean Pact if the crisis generates greater negative results?

[Answer] I would say that none of the governments now has the desire to end the Andean Pact. If there is any comfort to be drawn from the Andean businessmen's speeches, it is that none of them asked for the conclusion, the termination or the burial of the Andean Pact, in spite of the many complaints they made. The businessmen's conduct is seconded by the governments. If you speak to each of the presidents of the subregion's countries, they always reaffirm their support for the Andean group, in spite of the difficulties that exist. Therefore, I do not believe that any country will propose the termination of the Andean group, although they recognize that very serious difficulties exist for their survival.

[Question] Doctor, we will wait for you with expectation and wish you success in your efforts.

Ministers Support Reorganization

PY282327 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1606 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 28 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- The integration ministers of three countries have said that the five Cartagena Agreement members unanimously believe that the Andean Pact should be reorganized in order to ensure its survival. Ecuadorean, Colombian and Bolivian Intergration Ministers Orlando Alcivar, Gustavo Tobon and Jorge Gonzalez, respectively, told reporters today that the significance of the Andean Pact has been greatly enhanced by the current world crisis.

Those ministers, together with their Peruvian and Venezuelan counterparts and the delegates of the five Andean countries, were due to end the Cartagena Agreement meeting today. During the meeting, some steps were reported taken toward the reorganization of the subregional agreement. One of those steps, believed to be the most significant one, has been the decision to let business and labor sectors participate in the reorganization process, through consultative committees made up of representatives of the two sectors.

The ministers also admitted that the reorganization of the agreement cannot be accomplished overnight or in a 5-day meeting but, they stated, the important thing is that the governments of the five countries have now made the political decision to keep the pact alive and to change its course so that it may meet the challenge of present times.

In the opinion of those ministers, the presidential meeting scheduled for July in Caracas, for the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Simon Bolivar's birthday, will afford a good opportunity for reaffirming the subregion's political will to keep the 14-year-old Cartagena Agreement alive. Colombian Minister Gustavo Tobon told reporters: After this meeting I was finally able to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Tobon ruled out any possibility that his country might abandon the integration process and expressed confidence that all problems, such as the Venezuelan Government decision to adopt a protectionist policy, will be overcome through dialogue.

In turn, the Bolivian minister said that there is the conviction that the Andean Pact is necessary for the subregion and that breaking it up or weakening it would be suicidal. However, he stressed that, at this meeting, nobody talked about breaking the pact. Minister Alcivar, who is also president of the Cartagena Agreement Commission, said that everybody believes that the integration pact must be reorganized.

PACT REPORTS 'POSITIVE RESULTS,' NEW STRATEGIES

PY302146 Paris AFP in Spanish 0252 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 28 Jan (AFP) -- Edgar Moncayo, chairman of the Cartagena Agreement Board, reported today that the subregional Andean Pact has begun a period of transition toward the establishment of a new integration model based on a dozen reactivation strategies. We have achieved positive results. The crisis was not as alarming as it was said to be, Moncayo told the reporters.

The 35th meeting of representatives from Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela, managed to approve seven strategies. The first refers to the Andean Pact's foreign relations, upon which it was agreed to sign in the future a cooperation agreement with the EEC that could be firmed up in March or April in Bogota. It also decided to resume contacts with the United States, contacts opened under the Carter administration and suspended by the Reagan administration. A commercial, technological and financial cooperation program will be implemented. A special meeting on trade has also been established.

Contacts with the Latin American Integration Association [LAIA] will be updated and relations with Spain will be strengthened since the new Spanish Government wants to maintain special relations with Latin America. Another strategy is to support integration in the agricultural and livestock sector in order to secure the food supply for the subregion. The participation of businessmen and organized workers in the advisory councils is another agreement reached at the meeting of delegates. The reestablishment of plans for the transfer of science and technology and the creation of regional technologies in the fields of food production and home building is another strategy approved for the new Andean Pact integration period.

The sixth strategy approved has to do with the conflict-ridden area of intrasubregional trade. In this field, it was agreed to explore new models of trade in addition to the program providing for the lifting of tariffs. We must avoid distortions of competition through the adoption of [words indistinct] better regulation of incentives, Moncayo stated. The meeting also agreed to grant priority attention to Bolivia in the programs of the Andean Development Corporation [CAF] and the Andean Reserve Fund.

This commission will meet again in Lima under the presidency of Peru's Gustavo de la Puente during the first week of March.

CONVICCION SCORES U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

PY281916 Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 26 Jan 83 pp 8, 9

[Editorial: "And General Reston Is an Honorable Man," words in all capitals denote boldface as published]

[Text] The INTERIOR MINISTRY has denied through a spokesman that General RESTON gave AN ACCOUNT OF THE MISSING PERSONS ISSUE to the U.S. congressional delegation that visited him a few days ago. And General RESTON is an honorable man. However, after the meeting with the minister, Congressman MICHAEL BARNES told the journalists in his name and on behalf of his colleagues that THE INTERIOR MINISTER HAD GIVEN US A VERY GOOD ACCOUNT OF THE MISSING PERSONS ISSUE." However, General RESTON denies it, and general RESTON is an honorable man.

The "yankee inspectors" then visited all the human rights organizations that they could find at hand, including the mothers and grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo. After all these meetings, Congressman BARNES stated that "THE POSITION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THE POSITION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS REGARDING THIS ISSUE DIFFER A LOT." It seems that the reference to THE TWO POSITIONS confirms the fact that the interior minister did in fact give an account of the missing persons issue to the U.S. legislators. The U.S. legislators' capacity to lie appears to be great since the INTERIOR MINISTER denied that he had given any account on this subject. And the INTERIOR MINISTER is an honorable man. Some distrustful persons quoted Congressman BARNES' false statements as soon as he left general RESTON's office and they were promptly published by the press. However, these persons emphazised the fact that SEVERAL DAYS elapsed between BARNES' statements and the denial by the INTERIOR MINISTRY. For all we know, this is irrelevant and it points to nothing because we already know how slow our bureaucracy is to react.

Here are the things that we know for certain: 1. - A U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION CAME HERE TO LOOK INTO THINGS THAT ARE NONE OF THEIR BUSINESS. 2. - A SIMILAR DELEGATION ARRIVED A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE U.S. DELEGATION, BUT IT WAS MADE UP OF ITALIAN CONGRESSMEN. 3. - ALTHOUGH IT IS TRUE THAT WE COULD DO WITH A BIT OF FOREIGN TOURISM, WE CANNOT BE SO LENIENT, EVEN IF WE NEED DOLLARS, BECAUSE IN THE END THIS IS A SORT OF SLAP IN THE FACE FOR ARGENTINA. 4. - THE GOVERNMENT COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THE ITALIAN CONGRESSMEN. WELL DONE BECAUSE CARING ABOUT THEM WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE BEING TOUCHED BY THE ARRIVAL OF A LOW LEVEL OPERA COMPANY. NEVERTHELESS, THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE WAS NOT VERY POLITE AND CONVICCION WAS THE ONLY NATIONAL NEWSPAPER THAT BECAME INDIGNANT AT THIS ATTITUDE. 5. - MORE ATTENTION WAS PAID TO THE YANKEE CONGRESSMEN, BUT FOREIGN MINISTER Aguirre Lanari DID NOT RECEIVE THEM. THE U.S. CONGRESSMEN DID NOT CARE MUCH ABOUT THIS BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT COME TO DISCUSS FOREIGN ISSUES. SINCE THE U.S. CONGRESSMEN CAME TO LOOK INTO DOMESTIC ISSUES, THEY WERE RECEIVED PRECISELY BY THE INTERIOR MINISTER. THE INTERIOR MINISTER'S GESTURE DENOTED EXCEEDINGLY GOOD MANNERS. 6. - HOWEVER, SOMETIMES BEING POLITE SERVES NO PURPOSE. AT THE END OF THE MEETING, CONGRESSMAN BARNES AND HIS "TROUPE" MADE STATEMENTS WHICH WERE TERMED FALSE BY AN INTERIOR MINISTRY SPOKESMAN A FEW DAYS LATER.

Luckily enough, these statements were denied. If they had not been denied, MR VICTOR MARTINEZ, a Radical leader from Cordoba and ALFONSIN's running mate, would have been right when stating that "WE WOULD HAVE LIKED THE GOVERNMENT TO GIVE THE POLITICIANS AND THE PEOPLE THE SAME INFORMATION THAT IT GAVE THE U.S. LEGISLATORS WHO ARE VISITING US." He then asked himself a delicate question: "IS IT RIGHT FOR ARGENTINES TO DISCUSS PUBLICLY ABROAD SERIOUS AND PAINFUL PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE MISSING PERSONS, WHICH IS SO DEEPLY AFFECTING THE NATION?"

The answer is a categorical NO the Cordora leader went on to say that "IF NOT, WHY DOES THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT GIVE INFORMATION ON DOMESITC MATTERS TO A GROUP OF FOREIGN LEGISLATORS WHEN THE SUBJECTS SHOULD NOT BE DEALT WITH ABROAD?" VICTOR MARTINEZ was right. No country can survive without a sense of self-esteem and dignity. Of course, all this is an abstract speculation of Dr MARTINEZ' because congressman BARNES' slanderous statements have been denied by general RESTON'. And General Reston is an honorable man.

MULTIPARTY GROUP LEADERS INVITED TO WASHINGTON

PY282054 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1525 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, (TELAM) -- Radical leader Enrique Vanoli told TELAM today that leaders of the Multiparty Group have been invited to visit the United States on a yet-to-be established date to meet with U.S. political and congressional leaders with the objective of achieving a better development of democracy in Argentina.

Vanoli noted that the invitation was extended by the Society for the Development of Democracy, an organization that is presided over by U.S. Democratic and Republican Party leaders. Also members of the organization are several senators from both political parties and AFL-CIO leaders.

During a meeting to be held on Wednesday in Buenos Aires, Argentine leaders must decide whether to accept the invitation, the date it will take place and who the members of the delegation will be since the invitation was extended to one member of the each of the parties that make up the multiparty group.

Vanoli said that the Argentine political leaders would stay 3 to 5 days in Washington.

The Society for the Development of Democracy is a foundation that promotes the consolidation of representative governments through the exchange of experiences and support granted to the political leaders of each country.

ARGENTINA RECEIVES $500 MILLION LOAN FROM BIS

PY281309 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] The Bank for International Settlements [BIS] of Basel -- the institution which groups the central banks throughout the world -- yesterday firmed up a $500 million loan to Argentina to pay the country's foreign debt.

The agreement was signed at the BIS in Basel, Switzerland, with the participation of Angel R. Sola, Argentine financial adviser to the United States and Canada, and the members of the central banks of some of the member countries of this organization and of U.S. monetary officials who participated in the transaction.

The credit, the amount of which was left at the discretion of Argentina, will be granted for 4 months, at a very reducted interest rate, established at .5 above the current rate on the Eurodollar market.

Regarding the backing for the granting of this loan, the credit is in this case in keeping with the usual practice which establishes that "there is no loan among central banks which is not backed to some extent by monetary reserves, which are related to the prestige and solvency of the taker."

It should be noted -- that this loan granted to the Argentine Central Bank is the first BIS resolution in favor of a Latin American country, and that the Bank of England did not participate in the operation.

ECONOMIC TEAM PRESENTS REPORT TO PRESIDENT

PY302139 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Jan 83 p 7

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Tighter price controls may come into force in Argentina, particularly with relation to items in the "family shopping basket" while interest rates on time investments may remain substantially unchanged, sources said.

The sources added that the decision was believed to have been adopted at a meeting yesterday of the economic cabinet, presided over by Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe. They said the team was very concerned about steady price increases in the first three weeks in January.

In this way, they said, inflation in January might predictably be kept down to 14.5 percent.

It was learned that the team had decided to keep interests rates at 10.5 percent monthly for depositors and 11.5 percent for credits.

Later President Reynaldo Bignone received the members of the economic team who briefed him extensively about these proposed measures and about the 1983 budget, it was learned here.

Minister Wehbe reportedly told Bignone the team proposed keeping the budget deficit down to within 2.12 percent of the gross national product. He also said he intended to "considerably reduce" public expenditure.

Sources also said earlier predictions that 1983 inflation would be of the order of 160 percent appeared to have been negated by the steep increase registered so far.

Wehbe also reportedly briefed Bignone on the proposals scale of increases to state workers, probably once every two months from February to June and quarterly from July onwards.

After the meeting with the president, which finished at 1:15 pm, it was officially announced that the budget draft will go to the Legislative Advisory Commission (CAL) in the second half of February.

LAMI DOZO INTERVIEWED ON PROCESS, FALKLANDS

PY281955 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1315 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Mar del Plata, 28 Jan (NA) -- Former Air Force commander in chief Lt Gen Basilio Lami Dozo, retired, has said that the future constitutional government must not agree to the appointment of the next commanders in chief of the three Armed Forces branches.

He recalled that "the Constitution is very clear" regarding the appointment of military authorities and if the future president was to agree to some compromise in this regard he would "start his term of office from a very weak position." Lami Dozo was interviewed by a journalist from the Mar del Plata daily LA CAPITAL in Villa Gessel. He made it clear that "for the time being I have not thought about getting involved in politics."

He revealed that he is putting the final touches on the last part of his report on the war. Lami Dozo also voiced his belief that the ruling of the commission of representatives of the three Armed Forces branches that is evaluating the political and strategic leadership during the Malvinas war "will be released by the end of March or at the beginning of April." He confirmed that on 3 January 1983 he delivered the first part of his report to the commission of the three Armed Forces branches, which is headed by Gen Bejamin Ratembach, retired, and that the former Navy and Army commanders, Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya, retired, and Gen Fortunato Galtieri. retired, respectively, did the same on the next day.

Reviewing the performance of the process of national reorganization Lami Dozo siad, "I would not say that I have any regrets. Many swift decisions had to be made during these last 7 years." He added: "Circumstances made it necessary for us to reach decisions swiftly. Furthermore, we Argentines are very impatient becuase we want swift solutions and history teaches us that nations grow slowly."

When asked whether during the war with Great Britain the nation had to fact an enemy that "had not been properly evaluated," Lami Dozo said: "I would not say so. (Military evaluations are always based on the worst case hypothesis; in this case the severe reaction (of Great Britain) and the various courses it could take." He stated that "whatever happened" during the military conflict with Great Britain "had been predicted." However, he admitted that "we believed that the enemy might not receive support from certain sectors," meaning U.S. and European aid to Great Britain. "However," he went on to say, "as far as I am concerned, support from these sectors had been predicted. I have said so many times."

He indicated that each Argentine will reach his own conclusion "once the ruling of the commission of representatives of the three Armed Froces branches is released." As to the Air Force report to that commission, he explained that the report is made up of three parts, the first of which was delivered on 3 January 1983. The rest of the report will be ready in February and it will be delivered at the end of that month.

Lami Dozo said that the ideological training of the Air Force "is not rightwing nationalism, rather it is just nationalism as described by the social doctrine of the Catholic Church." Speaking about Giordano Genta [not further identified] he indicated that "Genta was a man who had evolved from the communist party to the extreme right, which only proves that the two extremes are very similar." He concluded by categorically refuting claims that Genta's line of thought "continues to have an influence on the Air Force."

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK -- Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (NA) -- The Danish Government has agreed to the appointement of Ruth Guevara Achaval as the new Argentine Ambassador to Denmark. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2318 GMT 25 Jan 83 PY]

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Buenos Aires, 27 Jan (TELAM) -- The Sultanate of Oman has agreed to the appointment of Roberto Eugenio Dalton as Argentine ambassador to that country. Dalton will continue to perform his duties as Argentine ambassador to Saudi Arabia, where he resides. For its part, the Argentine Government has agreed to the appointments of Ignacio Ovalle Fernandez and (Abdoerachman Djajaprawira) as new Mexican and Indonesian ambassadors to Argentina, respectively. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 83 PY]

BOLIVIAN CONCERNS ADDRESSED TO ANDEAN PACT

PY290140 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Speaking at the closing session of the 34th meeting of the Cartagena Agreement held in Santa Cruz, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo said that Bolivia's landlocked situation is an obstacle to its socioeconomic development.

The session took place today at 1430 Bolivian time [1830 GMT] at the (Los Tajivos) hotel.

Concerning the conclusions reached by the delegates, President Siles Zuazo said:

[Begin Siles Zuazo recording] The reassuring conclusions of this meeting will surely contribute to a reorientation of the integration process that will lead to a new strategy heavily inclined toward the agriculture and livestock sector. Concerning [words indistinct] we must pay special attention to the recommendations for an active participation of business and labor sectors in consultative committees. This initiative has been an invaluable contribution to the integration process. [end recording]

The president also reaffirmed his willingness to strengthen the integration process because, he said, this process is the most appropriate tool for overcoming the problems of our peoples.

He also launched an appeal for a joint effort aimed at solving the difficulties the Andean Pact is confronting.

In conclusion, President Siles Zuazo pointed to the Bolivian people's right to have an access to the sea.

[Begin Siles Zuazo recording -- in progress] My acknowledgement to all Andean Pact countries for their continued efforts to find a solution to [words indistinct] of a useful and sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean, without territorial compensation. In this regard, we must take into account that the landlocked situation of my homeland is an obstacle to its socioeconomic development. Bolivians, like all other peoples of the world, have the right to participate in the exploitation of the various sea resources. [end recording]

BANZER ON COUP POSSIBILITY, UDP STABILITY

PY290108 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1909 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 28 Jan (DYN) -- Former Bolivian de facto president Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez said here today that attempting to interrupt the democratic process in the country "would be a mistake," and that "it is the duty of the Bolivian military leadership to guarantee" that such a thing does not happen.

Banzer Suarez, who this afternoon left Buenos Aires in the company of his family for the Bolivian city of Santa Cruz, talked to reporters at Ezeiza Airport after a stopover on his flight from Colombia to Bolivia.

Regarding the statement by former Bolivian president David Padilla, who said that a new military coup was imminent in Bolivia, Banzer Suarez said: "I do not believe that."

"But in our countries, I am talking about Latin America," he went on, "political developments change rapidly and in Bolivia changes are precipitous." "I don't think conditions are ripe for an interruption of the democratic process and I sincerely believe that attempting to do so would be a mistake," Banzer added.

Regarding the shift of the MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left), led by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, to the opposition, in disagreement with the course along which President Hernan Siles Zuazo is driving the Bolivian democratic process, Banzer noted that "it was a predictable development."

"It was predictable," he explained "because when an alliance such as the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) -- made up of the MIR, Siles Zuazo-led National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] and the Bolivian Communist Party -- comes into power, a number of differences turn up, even though they may all share the same ideology."

MIR ISSUES STATEMENT DENOUNCING MNRI 'CLIQUE'

PY280248 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left -- MIR -- has issued a statement in response to a statement made by Felix Rospigliosi, executive secretary of the MNRI -- National Revolutionary Movement of the Left. The document, released to the media, is signed by Oscar Eid Franco and it says:

The Bolivian people can now judge our attitude and identify the true origin of and responsibilities for the political crisis the LDP -- Democratic and Popular Unity -- government is undergoing. The members of the palace clique and the viewpoints they put forth during the press conference do not deserve any answer, because we have already established our position and because we will not favor a controversy that feeds on clearly divisive intentions, which are precisely in opposition to our efforts to correct the course of the process.

We are therefore in the presence of a palace clique which has adopted a palace policy that the country rejects because it is based on absolute falseness, distortion of facts and above all, on divisive intentions. The aim of this policy can be none other than to make UDP government unity impossible. The policy adopted by the palace clique has confirmed our contention that they have distanced the UDP rank and file from the UDP leadership. From our position, close to the people, we will strive to correct the mistakes made and restore the UDP government the Bolivian people elected.

The MIR document also states that the Bolivian people are aware of what the MIR did during the resistance against past dictatorships, during the elections and while in power. Our struggle has given us the right to play an essential, not merely complementary role, within the UDP, the document stresses. The palace clique and its policy have turned out to be a divisive factor within the UDP government and within their own party, whose reunification has been hindered by their own actions. They have also established their political line in a document that carries the name, though not the signature, of their party Secretary General Mario Velarde. In conclusion, the palace clique is seeking to deepen the crisis by fomenting an atmosphere of opposition against the president, who cannot appoint a stable cabinet, thus contributing to the uncertainty the country is now confronting.

FEDERAL POLICE GIVEN SECURITY CRIME JURISDICTION

PY280235 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Through an official note presented yesterday by his advisers at Bandeirantes Palace, Justice Minister Ibrahim Abi-Ackel told Governor Jose Maria Marin about the ending of the agreement with the state government which delegates to the State Department of Political and Social Order [DEOPS] the task to investigate crimes against national security. This prerogative will again be turned over exclusively to the Federal Police.

In the note, Abi-Ackel asks Martin to arrange the transfer of DEOPS records to the federal police, whose superintendant in Sao Paulo will be Romeu Tuma, current head of the state Federal Police.

Commander Edilberto Braga has already been designated superintendant of the Rio de Janeiro Federal Police, whose agreement with the DEOPS has also been terminated.

According to the Justice Ministry adviser Oiama Teles, the agreement with the state on national security will not be ended in Minas Gerais.

POLICE DETAIN TOURISTS RETURNING FROM CUBA

PY290058 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Jan 83 p 5

[Excerpt] The Federal Police yesterday detained two doctors, two teachers and a psychologist -- all Brazilian citizens -- who returned from a tour of Cuba. They were charged with carrying "subversive material."

Detained at Congonhas airport on arriving from the Lima-Sao Paulo flight at 1030, the five persons were "invited to give some explanations" to the Federal Police on Antonio de Godoi Street, where they were held up to almost 2000. Poetry, theater and contemporary Cuban and Nicaraguan history books were seized from their baggage as presumed subversive material. Included among the material, which must be evaluated by the police, was the novel Dr Faustus by Thomas Mann.

Doctors Rodolfo Repullo, Jr. (34 years old) and Paulo Roberto de Sousa Marques (28 years old), elementary school teachers Marli Angela Mariano (34 years old) and Maria Jose Teixeira da Silva (44 years of age) and psychologist Lais Biaggi (24 years old), the spouse of Rodolfo Repullo, Jr., were detained because the police received an anonymous report that they were bringing subversive propaganda into the country.

EUCLYDES FIGUEIREDO TO TRANSFER TO RIO

PY290220 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Jan 83 p 5

[Text] Brasilia -- Gen Euclydes de Oliveira Figueiredo Filho, commander of the Amazon Military Region, and brother of the president of the republic, will be designated in February commander of the Army I Corps in Rio de Janeiro, to replace Gen Heitor Luiz Gomes de Almeida, who will be designated Brazilian ambassador to Lisbon. The current commander of the Army I Corps will be on leave of absence until he is transferred to the reserves at the end of this year. A major general will probably be designated acting commander of the Amazon Region.

These reports were circulating yesterday among Army circles, although the social communications center of the Ministry, which was consulted in this regard, only explained that "the Army Ministry has no power to designate generals; that is a power of the president of the republic."

Army Ministry sources noted laconically that so far there has been order for new designations, on reacting to the report that General Figueiredo will reportedly be designated, and everything depended on the publication of the decree.

Military circles see the designation of General Figueiredo as commander of the I Corps as being aimed at "counterbalancing the action of Leonel Brizola in the Rio de Janeiro Government, because the governor-elect is dominated by communists." As indications of the involvement of the Brizola Government with communists, military sectors point to Brizola's remarks promising to burn the records of the security organizations, the definition of the PDT [Democratic Labor Party] as a socialist party, the designation of Deputy Jose Frejat (a Communist) to the PDT leadership in the Chamber of Deputies and the presence of Vice Governor Darcy Ribeiro (another Communist).

Thanks to his professional style and his being the brother of President Figueiredo, General Euclydes Figueiredo will be able to fulfill without major problems his task in that "hardship post," supported by two other recently designated commanders: Maj Gen Diogo de Figueiredo, also brother of President Figueiredo and commander of the 1st Army Division (Vila Militar) and Geraldo Ferreira Braga, former chief of the Army's information center, commander of the 1st Military Region.

CANADIAN DELEGATION INSPECTS TRAINING AIRCRAFT

PY282335 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] After inspecting for a week the Tucano MB-312 military training plane or Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] in Sao Jose dos Campos, a delegation of Canadian Air Force officers concluded that the Tucano is one of the most advanced of its kind. They expressed an interest in purchasing somewhere between 50 and 150 units.

According to Embraer (?foreign relations) secretary (Ricardo Pesse), the Canadians were in fact impressed with the Brazilian technology in this sector.

[Begin (Pesse) recording] They came to Brazil at the invitation of the Brazilian Air minister to evaluate the Tucano training plane we are producing here. Judging from the evaluation they have made, they are really impressed not only with the plane but with the factory, the technology and the work on all levels. [end recording]

(pesse) reported that these Canadian officers will now take the report to the Canadian Government for further studies. The production of 56 Tucano planes has already been set for this year, and according to Embraer, several countries have already expressed interest in the plane.

ESCOBAR VIEWS STATE OF SIEGE POSSIBILITY

PA290440 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Bogota, 28 Jan (AFP) -- The reimplementation of the state of siege in Colombia as a result of the tense public order situation was viewed as a possibility today by Government (Interior) Minister Rodrigo Escobar.

The minister observed that if the conditions of public order deteriorate, President Belisario Betancur's government will be compelled to restore the emergency measures that were lifted on 20 July of last year.

However, Escobar noted that "the state of siege is not a mechanism that is applied at the mere pleasure or wish of the government, but only after carefully considering the public order situation."

"If public order is disrupted, the government is called upon to recognize this and declare it in order to resort to the instruments provided for in the Constitution for this type of situation," he explained.

The minister also reiterated that Betancur's government continues to uphold the peace banner, and recalled the amnesty offered to the rebels, which he described as "successful."

On the past few days in Colombia there has been an increase in kidnappings and guerrilla actions, particularly by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

The army rescued 40 persons who were being held by the FARC in the eastern plains and, according to military information, is encircling 50 insurgents in a mountainous region.

M-19 ANNOUNCES RESUMPTION OF MILITARY ACTIONS

PA272117 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2019 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Bogota, 27 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- A bulletin attributed to the largest guerrilla group in Colombia, the leftwing 19 April Movement (M-19), states today that it will resume its "military actions after a 3-month truce."

In the bulletin sent to the communications media in the Colombian capital, the M-19 calls for the unity of the guerrilla groups "to benefit the revolutionary struggle."

The M-19 declared a truce in November after the government offered an amnesty, and their activities have decreased notably since then, althought they never ceased completely.

Anonymous callers told several radio stations today that the M-19 was responsible for the kidnapping yesterday of the 19-year-old daughter of a Colombian banker. A $25-million ransom has been demanded.

However, the police said that it is not clear whether the kidnapping was staged by guerrillas or common criminals.

The young girl was captured at the school of architecture of the Los Andes University, near the central part of the city, by four armed men who overpowered some 30 students without the victim's personal bodyguards being able to stop them.

GARCIA FERAUD CALLS FOR POLITICAL TRUCE

PA290350 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Government Minister Galo Garcia Feraud today called for a political truce to join forces in order to solve Ecuador's current problems. The minister said that this halt to political fighting responds to the current needs for national coordination and would be a patriotic gesture. Garcia Feraud asked that resentments be forgotten, that a dialogue be maintained and that selfishness be set aside. He also recognized that [words indistinct] expressed in the decrease of the belligerence of the political parties, the reduction in verbal violence. Referring to the constitutional reforms that the executive will send to the Chamber of Representatives, he said that they have the approval of high-ranking political leaders.

[Begin recording] [Garcia Feraud] We need to stop our political fighting. Ecuadoreans should unite their energies to confront the very hard situation Ecuador is experiencing. Many voices of various political parties agree with this view and have indicated that this is needed. I want specifically to refer to those statements. I want to tell you that the national government applauds and supports the statements made by various political leaders such as those of the Liberal, Democratic, Radical Alfarist Front, People, Change and Democracy Parties and some other political groups that have expressed similar views.

We need to put a stop to the political fighting and to have a political truce at the current time when we must respond to the need to have national coordination. Civil defense in Ecuador and any other country means a challenge for the coordination of the people.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I think there are symptoms linked to this in the country. There needs to be a stop to the verbal violence and belligerence, to the aggressive attitude that is directed at destruction and not construction. We need to be willing to work at the same table even though at some time we might have had severe and deep differences. We need to be willing to listen to suggestions or to listen to others' views and to analyze them objectively. We must make efforts so that our analysis does not exaggerate or minimize situations but instead views things realistically so that together we can implement actions.

[Question] Mr Minister, woudn't this halt to political fighting, a political truce as you have said, [word indistinct] candidacies for the 1984 elections [words indistinct]?

[Answer] In no way. An electoral campaign can take place with individuals making proposals and expressing views and programs for a political administration beginning on August 1984. A stop to the fighting would be a stop to the verbal violence, belligerence or intransigence. But this does not mean that each individual will set aside his own beliefs or that he will stop working for the political alternative that he is offering us for next year.

[Question] [Words indistinct] Today there have been street disturbances [words indistinct]?

[Answer] We must preserve social order and peace through the means that society has to defend itself. Rock throwing or attacks against property and people are not ways to solve the serious Ecuadorean problems. The guardian of public order, the National Police, using legal, constitutional means, that is, dissuasive means, must preserve order and make sure that there are no excesses of any kind. [end recording]

CONFLICTING VERSIONS REPORT MURDER OF REPORTERS

Two Reported Dead, Two Wounded

PY300214 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 29 Jan (AFP) -- Police sources from Ayacucho have reported that the bodies of two reporters who had been lost a few days ago in the zone of activity of the Shining Path guerrilla movement, in Ayacucho, were found today near the town of Uchuraccai.

The first reports indicate that two other reporters have been wounded. Police and Army troops have been sent from Ayacucho in helicopters to investigate the events and to recover the wounded reporters.

This town is located in the province of Huanta, some 80 km north of Ayacucho. It was in this town that the peasants killed seven terrorists a few weeks ago.

Police officers from Ayacucho said that the peasants handed over to the police the two bodies and two prisoners. No further details have been learned on how these reporters died, although it is said that the peasants attacked the reporters thinking that they were a guerrilla group.

The reporters whose bodies were identified are Luis Mendivil and Pedro Sanchez, of the Lima morning newspapers EL OBSERVADOR and DIARIO, respectively. It was said that one of the wounded reporters is Jorge Sedano, of LA REPUBLICA.

These and two other colleagues left Ayacucho on Wednesday with the intention of reaching the town of Huaychao, where the presence of guerrilla members was detected recently.

The reporters were members of a group of special correspondents of Lima newspapers who have been in Ayacucho since the government authorized the military intervention in the struggle against subversion.

'Possibly Nine' Reported Stoned to Death

PA300340 Paris AFP in English 0327 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, Jan 29 (AFP) -- At least two Peruvian newsmen and possibly nine (?were stoned) to death by peasants who mistook them for Maoist guerrillas, officials said here Saturday night.

A party of six correspondents from Lima and three Ayacucho newsmen set out on an eight-hour march over mountain paths last Wednesday for the village of Huaychao, whose inhabitants had repulsed an incursion of guerrillas early in the week, killing seven of them.

The reporters failed to come back from that remote Andes mountain district. Huaychao is 80 kilometers (50 miles) from this city in southeastern Peru, where the Maoist "Path of Light" organization has made frequent forays into isolated towns to stage "people's trials" of local officials and execute them.

A police patrol searching for the missing reporters was greeted by peasants who announced they had repulsed a second group they assumed to guerrillas.

They said sentinals on peaks spotted the approaching men, who were then stoned with slings from the heights.

The Indians said two of the intruders were killed and the others, badly injured, were taken to a village five kilometers from there. But there were unconfirmed reports that all nine died, and that most of the bodies were too badly bruised to be recognizable.

Details were awaited from officials sent to the scene in helicopters.

The two known to be dead were reported to be Pedro Sanchez and Luis Mendivil, respectively of the Lima papers EL DIARIO and EL OBSERVADOR.

President Reports, Details Still Unknown

PY302045 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1921 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Lima, 30 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Fernando Belaunde Terry today confirmed the death of two journalists and the disappearance of six others in the Andean village of Uchuraccay, Ayacucho Department. According to early reports, the journalists may have been killed by peasants of that area.

This is another tragic incident in the already long list of disappointing and painful events we have endured in this unfortunate fratricidal struggle which has been initiated in Ayacucho and neighboring provinces, Belaunde said in his regular Sunday press conference.

The president said that Gen Roberto Noel, chief of the Ayacucho Security Zone, had informed him that the bodies of Luis Mendivil, reporter of EL OBSERVADOR, and Pedro Sanchez, photographer of EL DIARIO, were found.

Noel said that the Uchuraccay peasants, the alleged killers, had refused to give any information about the bodies of the other six journalists who were apparently buried in the area.

The reports released today are entirely different from those of last night since it was initially said that the bodies had bullet wounds and thus guerrillas were blamed for the crime.

Belaunde said that, according to early reports, the Uchuraccay peasants mistook the journalists for rebels and acted fiercely, fearful of a guerrilla counterattack.

Mario Castro Arenas, president of the Peruvian association of journalists, has reported that the bodies of Mendivil and Sanchez were severely beaten, apparently with sticks and stones and that the other journalists may have met a similar death.

This is the first time in the history of the Peruvian press that several reporters have been killed by a peasant community due to a tragic mistake, Castro said.

For his part, General Noel confirmed that the police killed nine rebels yesterday in a clash that took place in Huambo, Ayacucho.

Noel said the clash occurred when an armed terrorist group consisting of five men and four women attacked the Pampa Cangallo police station. He said the police seized light weapons, ammunition, home-made explosive devices and other materiel.

17 TERRORISTS DIE IN 'VIOLENT CLASH' WITH GUARD

PY281636 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The headquarters command of the emergency zone has confirmed that 17 terrorists -- 14 men and 3 women - - died and one policeman was wounded during a bloody clash with a Republican Guard brigade.

Among the dead was (Cuba Delgadillo), lover of the late Edith Lagos a member of the Shining Path.

The armed clash took place at about 1400 in (Chiguara), some 310 km southeast of Ayacucho in Andahuailas Province, when the terrorists were caught trying to dynamite the (Pasachaca) bridge.

The violent clash lasted about 4 hours. (Justo Valdivia Vivien), a member of the Republic Guard who was wounded during the clash, was rushed to Lima.

TWO MARXIST DEPUTIES BEATEN BY POLICE IN LIMA

PY281559 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Two Marxist Leftist Peruvian deputies were taken to the hospital in this capital this evening after having been beaten up by police during a miners meeting.

Deputies Manuel Dammert and Emeterio Tacuri were beaten up when the police were repressing a demonstration staged by the workers of the Cata and Canarias mines in Plaza 2 de Mayo.

WORKERS CONFEDERATION PLANS NATIONAL STRIKE

PA300020 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 24 Jan 83

[Text] Isidoro Gamarra, secretary general of the General Confederation of Workers of Peru, has announced once more that a national strike is being prepared to protest the government's incorrect policy. Gamarra added that the strike will demonstrate that the government is pushing the people toward misery, poverty and unemployment, which makes the high cost of living worse and benefits only the imperialist transnationals.

MINISTERS SIGN RESOLUTION TO AID FLOOD VICTIMS

PA300004 Havana in Quechua to Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru 2200 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] The Peruvian Council of Ministers signed a resolution granting economic assistance to all left homeless and without belongings as a result of the torrential rains that fell on various departments in the last few days.

U.S. GOVERNMENT ASKED TO RESPECT WORKERS

PA280439 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The Mexican Foreign Secretariat has again requested U.S. authorities to respect human and labor rights of Mexicans who work in the United States.

According to reports from the U.S. immigration service, 400,000 Mexicans who crossed the border and have remained in the United States illegally will soon be deported.

The Mexican Senate has condemned these procedures and has said that the United States should sit down at a negotiating table with the Mexican Government in order to find a solution to the problem.

GUATEMALAN INCURSION, MURDER SHARPLY PROTESTED

FL281850 Bridgetown CANA in English 1835 GMT 28 Jan 83

[By Robert Block]

[Text] Montebello, Mexico, Jan 28, CANA-REUTER -- Some 100 Guatemalan soldiers surrounded a refugee camp inside Mexico last Wednesday and dragged two men from their quarters before shooting one dead, eyewitnesses said here today.

They told REUTERS Pascual Tadeo, 31, was shot while horrified fellow refugees looked on. The other Guatemalan, named as Jose Jorge, was clubbed unconscious and bundled across the border. Relief workers said they feared he had been killed as well.

The incident took place at the Santiago ranch, some 800 metres (yards) from the border, in Mexico's oil-rich Chiapas province which has become a sanctuary for thousands of Guatemalans fleeing the violence of a major army campaign against leftist insurgents in areas bordering Mexico.

Relief workers said the Guatemalan incursion came one day after reports of a massacre of 30 villagers by troops in the village of Gracias a Dios on the Guatemalan side of the border. The officials, engaged in distributing supplies to refugee camps along the border, gave no details and declined to be named.

The reported incident was the latest in a string of alleged Guatemalan incursions which have strained relations between Mexico and the government of President Efrain Rios Montt.

Mast September, the Mexican Foreign Ministry issued a sharply worded protest over an incident in which it said Guatemalan troops had killed a Guatemalan refugee and two Mexicans inside Mexican territory. The protest demanded that the government of General Rios Montt issue clear-cut instructions to Guatemalan troops to stop crossing into Mexico or firing across the border.

Guatemalan authorities have routinely denied violations of Mexican territory.

Relief workers in the Montebello area, on Mexico's southernmost tip, put the number of Guatemalan refugees at some 100,000. The Mexican Government officially puts the fiture at 40,000.

The incident at the Santiago ranch, where some 200 Guatemalans are sheltered, came less than three weeks after the U.S. Government lifted a five-year arms embargo to Guatemala, saying the government there was making "significant progress" in curbing human rights abuses by the Army and security forces.

PRESIDENT SAYS MEXICO TO HOLD LINE ON OIL PRICES

PA281703 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid has reiterated that his government will refrain from taking any action that may lead to a decrease in oil prices. He said this after meeting in Mexico City with his main economic advisers. They examined the situation on the international oil market.

De la Madrid said that his government will remain alert for events at the world centers concerning decisions on oil matters, so that Mexico may adopt in due time the position most appropriate to its national interests.

SILVA-HERZOG MEETS WITH FRG BANK OFFICIALS

FL272034 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1945 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Frankfort, 27 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Finance Secretary Jesus Silva-Herzog met here today wtih Karl Otto Pochl, president of the FRG's "Bundesbank" federal bank.

Although it was learned that Silva-Herzog discussed the renegotiation of the Mexican foreign debt, "Bundesbank' spokesman said that the Mexican official only paid a visit to the bank within the framework of his stay in Germany.

Silva-Herzog also met with representatives of the FRG's three main private banks, the Deutsche, the Dresden and the Commerce, which reported that the talks involved a "delicate matter."

The Mexican finance secretary left for Zurich today and from there he will go to Madrid where he is expected tomorrow in order to hold talks with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Golzalez, Economic and Finance Minister Miguel Boyer and Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, president of Spain's Banco Exterior.

BELIZE

TOLEDO POLITICAL LEADER ON STATUS OF TALKS

PA292227 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] On the subject of foreign policy, the government has announced the failure of the new round of negotiations designed to end the century-old dispute over the territory of Belize. Today, (Alejandro Vernon), a leader of the Progressive Party of Toledo, said that the Guatemalan-British negotiations to resolve this problem only serve to more firmly entrench George Price in power.

[Begin (Vernon) recording in progress] ... in power. Price currently has no intention of reaching a solution with Guatemala. The dispute between Great Britain and Belize is convenient for Mr Price, because it allows him to remain in power.

In this regard, there are members of his party, the People's United Party, who use the Guatemalan claim and a Guatemalan invasion as a pretext for having military defenses in Belize and for obtaining the support of socialist and communist countries. This is the plan of the leftist element within Mr Price's government.

Therefore, if the problem remains unresolved, the gain in strength. When the time comes for the British military forces to withdraw, Belize will be able to establish diplomatic relations with countries like Cuba, Nicaragua and other socialist and communist countries.

He is not very sincere in this matter. He has painted himself into a corner, because he has said he will never turn over even 1 square centimeter to Guatemala. This means that if he goes against his domestic policy in Belize, he would lose votes and he does not want to lose votes, because he wants to remain in power. Therefore, it is to his advantage for the dispute to continue, so that he can remain in power and be able to introduce the ideology that he wants to introduce. [end recording]

Asked about comments to the effect that Guatemala is being manipulated in this negotiation, (Vernon) said the following:

[Begin recording] I believe this issue has weakened Guatemala. Price has taken Guatemala and led it by the nose. In the 1950's Guatemala helped him and his party to come to power and now he has turned his back on Guatemala.

I think Guatemala has been sincere in seeking a solution. It has been flexible. I think the government of Belize should also show some flexibility. Many people in Belize want to see this problem resolved, because it affects our economic development, our implementation of a more progressive domestic policy and also our capacity to improve relations with Guatemala and relations within the regional system, to help the CACM and to join regional organizations such as the OAS, Sieca and such. [end recording]

COSTA RICA

MONGE TERMS BARRICADA CHARGE 'ABSURDITY'

PA271209 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1919 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] San Jose, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- On being awarded an honorary karate black belt, President Luis Alberto Monge told newsmen "I fail to understand the conduct of the Sandinists." He termed as "another falsity" a charge by the official sandinist newspaper regarding alleged joint U.S.-Costa Rican military maneuvers.

"Costa Rica has nothing to do with military maneuvers, because it does not have an army. The whole world knows this," the president remarked.

Monge was given the award by Ryoichi Sasakawa, president of the World Karate Association. Sasakawa, businessman and philathropist, is in Costa Rica to attend a meeting of the University for Peace executive committee, of which he is a member.

Monge told Sasakawa that Costa Rica has nothing to do with military maneuvers with the United States and that the allegation "is another absurdity invented by the neighbors to the north."

The president added that his government does not participate even as an observer in military activities in the region. He noted that Costa Rica does not belong to the Central American Defense Council (Condeca), which is being reinvigorated.

Referring to the Sandinist reports, he reiterated that he "cannot at all understand" the Nicaraguan policy against his government and his country. The Nicaraguan charges of Costa Rican participation in military maneuvers with the U.S. Army in the Atlantic were also rejected by the public security minister and the U.S. Embassy here.

Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano labeled the charge "absurd." Regarding reports published by the Sandinist newspaper BARRICADA, which were echoed by Radio Havana and Radio Sandino, the embassy explained that the "Kindle Liberty" operations are defense practices for the Panamanian and U.S. forces.

GOVERNMENT STEPPING UP BORDER SECURITY

PA292314 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Eden Pastora Gomez has been summoned by Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon, who said he personally summoned Pastora Gomez, widely known as "Commander Cero," for questioning. Commander Cero was allegedly linked with some counterrevolutionary camps, but he assured the deputy government minister that he was not in Costa Rica when the camps were discovered, and can prove this.

Eden Pastora affirmed that [Alfonso] Robelo and [Fernando] Chamorro, with whom he is annoyed, were also in Panama when an attempt was made to link them with the discovery of these camps.

Commander Cero urged the deputy government minister to send more patrols to regions where the presence of armed groups is suspected. Pastora Gomez told Enrique Chacon that if other populated camps are discovered, they can be destroyed and the people killed because he is sure they are not his collaborators.

The deputy government minister said that Pastora will be out of Costa Rica for a long time because he will travel to several countries.

Meanwhile, Public Security Minister Angel Solano Calderon said that the Public Security Ministry does not have to ask anything from Eden Pastora, when asked about Pastora's alleged presence in regions where camps have been detected. Solano Calderon emphasized that the Public Security Ministry has the moral and legal responsibility to guarantee tranquillity for the Costa Ricans. He emphasized that no foreigner will be allowed to use our territory to carry out hostile actions against another country, which might endanger our own tranquillity directly or indirectly.

He said it is our task to enforce the law and establish the truth, disregarding gossip and rumors, every time we discover illegal activities, and since 8 May we have been acting seriously and responsibly.

Solano Calderon said this does not imply there is no evidence against Pastora, and every Costa Rican knows the current behavior of many foreigners. He said the truth is that some things cannot be said for security reasons. That is why the latest publications seem wrong, Solano added. He said that part of Costa Rican custom is to reveal security information, but I cannot now say whether or not we have evidence because, if we have, our mission is to take the necessary measures immediately. I do not want to say what we will do, so that the possible culprits may flee and we will only find empty camps, he said.

Solano Calderon said an inspection tour of the country's north zone will be made next month, with the participation of all the members of the Security Council. This tour will inspect and evaluate security measures on the northern border. The tour will also be used to install the Atlantic command and study the permanent control posts, as well as the land and water transportation systems. The tour will start in Tortuguero and continue towards (Barra del Colorado), delta of the San Juan Pala River at Los Chiles, he explained.

VOLIO RETURNS HOME; PREPARES FOR MEXICO TRIP

PA301827 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1600 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] San Jose, 30 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez returned from Tegucigalpa today and announced that he will visit Mexico within a week to strengthen the relations that have been excellent between the two countries.

Volio said: "I consider my visit to Mexico on 7 February very important due to the bonds that unite our two countries."

Volio is making the trip in response to an official invitation from Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda and to reaffirm the traditional friendship between the two countries.

Volio expressed his desire to "be able to depend on an ally like Mexico in Costa Rica's efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions," and recalled Mexico's interest on the matter of the Honduran-Nicaraguan relations.

The Costa Rican Foreign Minister's visit will last 3 days and it will be Volio's first meeting with Sepulveda, who took office 2 months ago when Miguel de la Madrid became president.

RADIO SANDINO INTERFERES WITH LOCAL STATIONS

PA300113 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] It has been charged that nightime transmissions by Radio Sandino, the official Nicaraguan station, are penetrating almost throughout Costa Rica, blocking local stations. After 1700, the Sandinist radio's transmissions can be heard clearly, launching strong attacks on the Costa Rican Government and people, according to several listeners.

While asking the government to ack quickly to put an end to this interference on 760 khz, a mediumwave frequency, the people of Costa Rica note that the Sandinist government is once again boasting of its power by interfering in our country's radio frequencies to broadcast insults.

ARMY REPORTS ON GUERRILLA TACTICS IN MORAZAN

PA280426 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 27 Jan 83 pp 2, 35

[Excerpts] Military sources said yesterday that the terrorists are determined to occupy the Morazan area because it is considered an important strategic military objective. The sources added that "in that area there is constant heavy fighting, and it has always been considered a conflict area because it is strategic for the guerrillas for two main reasons." The main reason is that this area is relatively near the supply bases established in Nicaraguan territory. It is the area where, because of the cruising range of the aircraft, they receive their supplies. The night flights are more secure because of the proximity to Nicaragua, and therefore the guerrillas need to control that area. The other reason is that the terrorists have concentrated most of their resources in that region to carry out attacks against the civilians in the area, and to temporarily occupy small towns and tell the world that it is a strip of "liberated" land.

The military sources said that "this is why some of the armed forces activities are aimed at the recovery and the dislodging of the terrorists from those towns."

Secondary Actions by the Subversives

The sources also said that the extremists "use tactical measures as diversionary actions. They carry out secondary actions in other areas of the country to distract the army's attention from the Morazan zone."

"That is why we have had several harassment actions against the civilian polulation, as in the case of La Palma, Chalatenango. This town is now under armed forces control. Another harassment action was against a military patrol in San Isidora Lempa Canton, Tacachico, where one soldier was reported dead and two civilians wounded."

They Expect Reactions From Organizations

The military sources added yesterday that "we have been watching, seeing, reading and listening to the various communications media to see if some organizations will pronounce themselves against the human rights violations that the terrorists hords carried out in Meanguera, where they captured, tortured and murdered soldiers. The principles of human rights dictate that soldiers who are taken prisoners cannot be executed. They have also failed to protest the bombing by the guerrillas against the civilian population in Meanguera."

The sources also reported on the operations underway in Morazan to dislodge the extremists from the area. "Up to yesterday, the armed forces have had 7 dead and 33 wounded, and we have counted 36 guerrillas dead. Weapons of various calibers, grenades, claymore mines, medical and surgicial equipment and food have been confiscated. At present, pacification actions continue in the northern area of Morazan Department."

DEFENSE MINISTER GARCIA COMMENTS ON SITUATION

PA282135 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The YSKL news center at Midday, or rather this morning, went to the San Carlos Garrison, which is better know as the 1st Infantry Brigade. There, in the presence of the Armed Forces high command, presided over by Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, in addition to Col Rafael Flores Lima and 1st Infantry Brigade Commander Col Adolfo Blandon, 200 new recruits of that military detachment were sworn in.

Subsequently, the YSKL news center and newsmen from other local and foreign media approached Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia to talk about certain current events.

For his part, Col Adolfo Blandon also commented on reports that have circulated abroad, particularly in Washington. Some U.S. media have spread the report that during the subversive attack on Tuesday night in this capital, the San Carlos garrison was occupied by the guerrillas. This report was denied by Colonel Blandon, particularly since it was disseminated abroad, mainly in Washington.

This topic was also discussed with General Garcia. We transmit to you this special report on the events at noon today at the San Carlos garrison when Col Adolfo Blandon swore in new recruits, after which we talked with Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia.

[Lengthy indistinct recorded passage]

Now we have the comments made by Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia when (Roberto Aldana) of LA PRENSA GRAFICA asked his opinion of the total or at least substantial loss of power suffered yesterday afternoon by Army Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly. Here is General Garcia's reply.

[Begin recording] [Garcia -- in progress]...exclusively the purview of the assembly. We have absolutely nothing to do with this. [Words indistinct] I am completely uninvolved.

[Question] General, what can you tell us about the situation in Morazan?

[Answer] Well, as you already know, the operation that we are carrying out there is continuing. We are committed to it, and of course we are determined to continue it until we have completed our mission, which is the basic objective of all the forces that we have in Morazan.

The operation is proceeding satisfactorily. There has been, of course, as you already know, certain resistance that we have overcome and obstacles that have emerged and that we have been able to eliminate with determination in order to continue our offensive. Remember that this is an activity that we are carrying out throughout the country.

[Question] [Words indistinct] the guerrillas in that area, General?

[Answer] Yes, they are. And of course there is strong resistance, and that is why our actions are also very strong.

[Question] General, last night the rebel radio station said that Honduran troops had been stationed on the border with El Salvador and that, moreover, at certain points there had been some infiltration and that two Honduran airplanes had bombed guerrilla positions. What truth is there in that, General?

[Answer] Well, it is not the first time that such things have been said. We are carrying out our operation alone, as we have always done, and our struggle is continuing, as we have always said.

[Question] Has there been information about the confirmation of military aid to El Salvador from the U.S. Government, General?

[Answer] Well, only what you already know of the certification given by President Reagan. Of course, you know that this goes to the Congress, and it will be some days before there is a definitive decision as to what is to be done regarding military aid.

[Question] [Words indistinct] about the future, has there been any information?

[Answer] Absolutely not, not even mine, because I would like to know my future.[laughter]

[Question] [Words indistinct] recovered Meanguera?

[Answer] We have been in contact with Usulutan. We already have people there (?who are) confirming this. The report that we have received is that nothing is going on there.

[Question] Any report of the investigation of the harassment of [words indistinct]

[Answer] Ah, that is important, because we are here, right? Some news agencies have said that this garrison has been occupied, and that the attack was so intensive that the guerrillas got into the 1st Brigade garrison. The fact that we are here, that we have come to this ceremony and are participating in these things, means also that we are telling the world and our people that they should continue to have faith in us and that the 1st Brigade is here, absolutely calm, carrying out its usual activities. We are here and we can deny such reports.

[Question] Could you say that we are at a crucial moment in the struggle against subversion?

[Answer] Yes, I believe it is a decisive and important moment, and that is why we are taking vigorous offensive actions to achieve our objective and bring tranquillity to our country.

[Question] In the wake of the harassment of this brigade, it was said that some bodies had been brought into the garrison installations.

[Answer] That is absolutely false. Any such bodies were sent where they should legally be sent -- to the morgue. At no time were they brought here. [end recording]

These were the comments made by Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia to the local and foreign press at midday today at the athletic field of the San Carlos garrison, which is better known as the 1st Infantry Brigade.

TRAFFIC TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED ON DAMAGED BRIDGE

PA282322 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] The railroad bridge between San Nicolas Lempa and San Marcos Lempa, which has served as a replacement for the Oro Bridge since shortly after the latter bridge was destroyed by guerrillas on 15 October 1981, has been closed for 15 days by authorities of the Salvadoran National Railroads Enterprise [Ferrocarriles Nacionalies de El Salvador -- Fenadesal], it was learned today from that state enterprise.

Officials from the traffic department and the Fenadesal general manager's office described the temporary suspension of the movement of trains and automobiles as a security measure until a commission of engineers and other experts from the enterprise and from the Acajutla Port State Commission [Comision Estatal del Puerto De Acajutla -- CEPA] can assess the damage caused by a dynamite attack on the bridge supports staged by guerrilla groups at 0430 on Tuesday.

Military, Fenadesal and CEPA authorities have all reported that the damage is partial, but they have felt it necessary to determine just how safe the structure is for the passage of automobiles and trains.

The railroad bridge on the Coastal Highway between the Departments of San Vicente and Usulutan is one of two bridges that provide access to the eastern part of the country. The other is the Cuscatlan Bridge on the Pan-American Highway.

As far as the recent dynamite attack on the railroad bridge is concerned, military sources said that the rebels who carried out the operation used canoes without motors in order to elude the group of approximately 200 troops on guard duty there.

It was also reported that after the explosion of the dynamite charges there was a confrontation, although military spokesmen have not disclosed the results of the skirmish.

An armed forces source from a garrison in the central part of the country reported today that, in view of the recent guerrilla attack at the railroad bridge, the garrisons charged with the security of that bridge and of the Cuscatlan Bridge on the Pan-American Highway have been reinforced and new preventive measures have been taken to prevent future guerrilla actions.

Fenadesal indicated that as soon as a report has been submitted by the experts who are evaluating the damage at the railroad bridge, the public will be informed as to whether or not the ban on traffic on the bridge will be extended.

ARMY REPORTS COORDINATED GUERRILLA ATTACKS

PA282339 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 Jan 83 pp 2, 24

[Excerpts] At least 11 persons were killed in the harassment actions that guerrillas carried out on Tuesday night against the San Carlos garrison (1st Infantry Brigade) and the garrisons in towns of the outskirts of the capital.

According to the reports, the attacks appeared to be designed to divert the army from a counterinsurgency operation that it has been staging for the past 13 days in northern Morazan.

The subversives attacked the 1st Infantry Brigade (San Carlos) in an operation that lasted over 2 hours, using grenade launchers, bazookas and automatic weapons, leaving four attackers and one soldier dead.

There was also heavy shooting in Mejicanos, Cuscatancingo, Ayutuxtepeque, the area around the national university, the Panama and Zacamil neighborhoods and other areas on the outskirts of the city.

Military sources said that to counter the attack on San Carlos, a Huey helicopter was used, and that it fired its machineguns.

The terrorists attacked the civil defense headquarters in Mejicanos and damaged a water tank. Four youths who were playing in a nearby lot were killed in the crossfire, according to judicial sources.

In Santa Ana, the guerrillas attacked the headquarters of the Army and of the National Police simultaneously with the attack in San Salvador. Two men, apparently guerrillas, were killed in the skirmish, according to a local source. The extremists set off two bombs that caused a loss of power in one part of the city.

The garrisons at Usulutan, San Vicente, La Union and other cities in the interior were also attacked at the same time: 2130.

An Army officer has denied terrorist claims of having destroyed the Lempa River railroad bridge, which is near the Oro Bridge.

A clandestine radio station said that the bridge had been completely destroyed. The officer denied that a second attack had been launched against the bridge after the dynamite attack on Tuesday that caused some damage to the structure but did not destroy it.

San Agustin, a town close to Usulutan, has not been in contact with the Usulutan garrison, and it was feared that the town had fallen to the terrorists in the wake of attacks that began at 1500 yesterday.

In Morazan, 6,000 army troops were fighting for the sixth day against the subversives in the area around the Torola River near Meanguera.

SUBVERSIVES DEFEAT DEFENDERS IN TONACATEPEQUE

PA292139 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 28 Jan 83 pp 2, 25

[Text] After 7 hours of fighting, the subversives completely destroyed the building that housed military headquarters in Tonacatepeque. The FMLN terrorists surrounded the town 2 nights ago and began to attack the trenches at the four cardinal points around the town.

At about 2245, shouting slogans, they began to fire on the military's trenches. The subversives also shot streetlights out, leaving the streets in darkness so that the civil defense unit could not locate them. The civil defense members had to retreat to the trenches to avoid being hit by the hail of bullets, since they were outnumbered by the subversives.

They Burn Buildings and Loot Stores

In the early morning hours, perhaps because the civil defense guards ran out of ammunition, the terrorists arrived at the center of the city and entrenched themselves in the park, along the walls of the market and in the area around city hall. Approaching the military headquarters they hurled incendiary bombs, completely destroying the building and apartments in the area. The families residing in the area were saved only by a miracle, as they found themselves in the crossfire. Finally, the civil defense members were forced to retreat, because they were surrounded by the subversives and because of the fires in the houses caused by the incendiary bombs.

Before leaving the town, the terrorists sacked the Amalita store and other businesses, taking food, medicine and batteries of the kind used in radios and flashlights.

Two Dead and Some Injured

A truck from El Angel mill in Apopa that was en route to a canefield in San Jose Guayabal was intercepted by the subversives on the access road from the northern trunk highway to Tonacatepeque, and the driver was ordered to place the truck across the road. As the driver was maneuvering to do so, there was another exchange of fire between the terrorists and civil defense members. As a result, Jose Paz Reyes, 22, a farmhand who was on the truck, was killed instantly, and the driver was injured. Carlos Alexander Espinoz, a member of the civil defense unit, died in the trenches while trying to prevent the terrorists' advance.

The terrorists finally left the city at approximately 0540. By daylight, it was possible to see the rubble of the houses that had burned and the sad faces of the inhabitants, who experienced the terror generated by all such actions, it was said.

Some individuals indicated that the toll of the long hours of shooting included injury to many people and the destruction of houses in that city, which is constantly besieged and terrorized by subversives coming down from the Guazapa volcano.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON MORAZAN TOWNS RETAKEN

PA300331 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 29 Jan 83 pp 4, 33

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia said yesterday that several towns and strategic positions in Morazan Department were recovered by the Army in a new counterinsurgency operation.

The first towns to fall to the armed forces yesterday were San Agustin, Meanguera and other important positions in Morazan and Usulutan Departments. Minister Garcia believes that the operation underway in Morazan has been successful largely because it has the support of the area's residents, who are tired of seeing their activities involving agriculture, cattle, handicrafts, trade and the like completely paralyzed.

MAJOR ROBERTO D'AUBUISSON ON ASSEMBLY 'CRISIS'

PA291647 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Yesterday the Radio Cadena YSKL news department received a press communique which includes a statement by Major Roberto d'Aubuisson Arrieta, concerning the latest events at the Constituent Assembly. Here is the text of the press communique:

As president of the Constituent Assembly, I consider it necessary that the Salvadoran people be given a firm and correct chronological report of the events that have been taking place in the last few days pursuant to the president's request to ratify the appointment of the health and social assistance minister. In a flagrant violation to the interparty agreements and the Apaneca pact itself, he submitted this request to the assembly, thus creating an unnecessary political crisis.

For the people's information, here is a report on the events:

The piece of correspondence that includes the president's request, after [words indistinct] was turned over to the Special Commission comprised by the nine Directorate members and [word indistinct] Luis Mendez Segovia and Rodolfo Castillo Claramount. At 0900 on 27 January, the commission met in the president's office to discuss the request to ratify the minister of public health and social assistance, nominated by President Alvaro Magana. The commission discussed the following:

1. Whether or not to issue an opinion; it was so decided.

2. Whether or not the opinion would ratify the nomination; it was so agreed.

3. Whether the favorable opinion was going to be submitted at the assembly session scheduled for that same day, 27 January, or whether it was going to be included on the agenda of the next plenary session on 3 February, to prevent discussions concerning the personality of Dr Napoleon Eugenio Cardenas and neutralize the political crisis which now affects the government's image. During the meeting it was decided that the opinion on the ratification of Doctor Cardenas would not be included on the agenda of the plenary session scheduled for 1000, 27 January. In this sense, the Directorate came downstairs to the Blue Hall to start the plenary session, but only five of its members arrived. Hence, the Directorate waited for all the deputies that had been previously called.

The Constituent Assembly president proceeded to start the session at 1110. Since there was no quorum as established by the assembly's internal regulations, because only 18 deputies including 5 Directorate members were present, the president postponed the session until the members could be called together.

It is deemed appropriate to mention that the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, had recently demanded that members arrive punctually for the start of plenary sessions. It was for this very suggestion that the session took place exactly at the time specified in the notice.

Later, when the remaining deputies learned that the plenary session had been postponed, they decided to hold it by calling together the first vice president and 39 deputies, including only 4 Directorate members. This is a flagrant violation of the regulations. This session was hurriedly conducted in disrespect of the internal regulations and in violation of the basic standards of parliamentary ethics. It clearly obeyed external pressures which sought the ratification of the ministerial appointment. To do this, they had to revise the regulations in an antijuridical and arbitrary way.

The objective report of all these events clearly reveals that the ratification of Doctor Cardenas did not pose a problem because we had agreed to do it in the next plenary session. Clearly, the violation of regulations and disregard for the assembly's prestige could have been avoided.

The Christian Democrats used pressure to goad other deputies into making such a childish decision. The Christian Democrats used pressure to catch the other deputies off guard and include on the agenda an opinion that was not approved last year concerning a revision of Article 43 of the Constitution. It implies that the deputies can assume public posts without losing their seats as deputies; it authorizes them to return to their seats in the assembly after leaving their position or after having been forced to leave it due to their failure.

Regarding this issue, Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, has stated that this represents a violation of the constitutional process that establishes the interdependence of the state branches. Therefore, it is not in accordance to legal or political standards.

This is a summarized report of what really happened and the people will be able to judge correctly who is acting honestly, respectful and seriously regarding our legal standards and correct parliamentary procedures. [Issued] San Salvador, 28 January 1983.

TWO KILLED IN ATTACK ON OFFICER'S HOME

PA291750 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] Here is our confirmed report on last night's developments at the home of Army Maj Roberto Rodriguez Sossa, who is assigned to Sensuntepeque.

The reports which we received indicate that four heavily armed men waited for Maj Roberto Rodriguez' maid to go out on an errand. His home is located in the San Augusto neighborhood on San Antonio Abad Street of this capital. Later, at approximately 1900, the men forced their way into the house; when the maid returned, they forced her to open the door.

We wish to inform you that Maj Roberto Rodriguez is deputy commander of the Cobra detachment in Sensuntepeque, which was one of the principal units that supported Col Sigifredo Ochoa Perez' military movement early this month.

According to the details, the four armed men entered the major's home in San Augusto colony on San Antonio Abad Street northwest of the capital, and shooting ensued with the security guards at the major's home.

One of the attackers and one of the security guards were killed. This was confirmed late tonight at the judicial center of this capital and at the hospital.

Also, the names of the attackers of this new act of violence have been withheld. According to sources close to the home of Maj Roberto Rodriguez, the men who entered his home were after him or members of his family.

Also, according to officials at the center, the body of cadet Lt (Carlos Alfredo Alas Duque) was identified although they did not indicate where he was shot or if he was the victim of an attack. Furthermore, it was learned that the judicial authorities were called urgently to identify the two bodies at the military hospital. The corpses had been taken there from the area of the attack in San Augusto neighborhood on San Antonio Abad Street where Maj Roberto Rodriguez, deputy commander of the Cobra Detachment in Sensuntepeque, lives.

LEGAL AID OFFICE CALLS FOR PRISONERS' RELEASE

PA301954 Sal Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Jan 83 pp 40, 41, 42

["Public Summon" to the honorable Supreme Court of Justice entitled: "Freedom for the Political Prisoners!" issued by the Christian Legal Aid Office in San Salvador and signed by Mauricio Ernesto Rodriguez, national executive coordinator, no date given]

[Excerpts] When the members of the Supreme Court were either elected or confirmed, the electing body asserted that this branch of the state would be independent and would have the structure established by the political Constitution. That probably meant that you, honorable court, would be empowered to fulfill your function as a body charged with controlling constitutionality. Concerning this subject, we feel it is high time that the people be given a categorical explanation about the following situation:

You no doubt already know that in the penal centers of Mariona and the women's prison there are over 700 individuals with the status of political prisoners. The unconstitutional, illegal and expired Decree No 507, or "special law on the procedures applicable to the crimes to which Article 177 of the political Constitution refers," a decree issued on 3 December 1980 and published that same day in the Official Gazette No 228, Volume 269, is being applied to those persons.

You must also know that these persons are not notified of the status of their cases within the period of time established by the law; that many of them do not know the specific charges on which they are being tried; that most of these political prisoners have been in prison more than 180 days and yet neither the indictment phase has been completed nor their charges dismissed or their cases taken to plenary court; that in short, honorable court, either nothing or very little has been done to speed up these proceedings. To this delicate legal situation, which violates the most elemental principles in procedural matters, one must add the equally serious fact that, as we will prove next, Decree 507 is not only unconstitutional, but on 6 March 1982 it automatically expired, yet it is still being applied.

In view of these arguments, and on the basis of the provisions established in Articles 96 and 152 of our political Constitution, with due respect and consideration I ASK [published in uppercase] you, honorable Supreme Court of Justice:

1. To declare the unconstitutionality of Decree No 507, or special law on the procedures applicable to the crimes to which Article 177 of the political Constitution refers, which was issued on 3 December 1980 and p lished that same day in the Official Gazette No 228, Volume 269 as well as the unconst utionality of its complements, Decrees No 558 of 5 January 1981 and No 943 of 15 January 1982;

2. To order the unrestricted and immediate release of all political prisoners.

FDR'S UNGO VISITS PUERTO RICAN LEFTIST LEADERS

PA300241 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Guillermo Manuel Ungo, president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) in El Salvador, said in San Juan, Puerto Rico, that if today the Salvadoran dictatorship refuses to negotiate with the revolutionary forces, tomorrow it will have to negotiate the defeat.

Ungo is currently visiting the Puerto Rican capital to meet with leaders of the leftist political organizations as well as cultural and religious organizations as

Ungo described the social and economic situation of El Salvador as extremely alarming. He added that in El Salvador, the millions of U.S. dollars are not used to improve the economy but to politically support the dictatorship. He said that Washington has still not realized that there can be no democracy in a country whose government is run by a group of fascists.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Military Successes in January

PA280418 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Showing the unstoppable advance of our January military campaign, we will report the total number of weapons we have recovered since 8 January when we began the current campaign. So far we have recovered 272 rifles and 11 support weapons. We have inflicted more than 260 casualties on the enemy. We have captured 150 prisoners of war. We have downed one helicopter and seized nine towns. During this campaign, we have dislodged the enemy from Tejutla, San Francisco Morazan, Cacaopera, Jocoaitique, Meanguera, Concepcion Quezaltepeque, La Palma, Alegria and San Francisco Javier. Beginning on the afternoon of 26 January, our forces had the town of San Agustin in Usulutan Department under siege. In the development of our military campaign, we have made unusable the bridge over the Torola River, and later in a bold commando operation we made the bridge over the Lempa River unusable. This is how our people advance; this is how the enemy continues to withdraw.

Coastal Bridge Sabotaged

PA281617 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The successful commando operation carried out against the Coastal Highway bridge over the Lempa River has rendered the bridge useless.

As a result of this new blow to the dictatorship and directed against the regime's war economy, land traffic to southeastern El Salvador has been totally cut off.

We explain to our listeners abroad the importance of this act of sabotage, this destruction of the bridge over the Lempa River. Eastern El Salvador is linked to the central and other regions by two main highways; the Pan-American Highway to the north and the Coastal Highway to the south. By cutting off traffic over the bridge on the Coastal Highway, we have left the entire southeastern part of the country without any direct contact by land. Thus the regime only has the Cuscatlan Bridge on the Pan-American Highway to transport troops and carry out other war-related activities.

This important bridge in southeastern El Salvador, which has now been crippled by our forces, was being used as a replacement for the Oro Bridge, which has already been destroyed.

Advances Claimed

PA290429 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Our January Revolutionary Heroes offensive continues to advance. After hitting the enemy in the heart of the capital, in San Carlos garrison, headquarters of the 1st Infantry Brigade, and attacking several posts on the outskirts of San Salvador, our revolutionary army has now seized the town of Tonacatuepeque, located only 15 km from San Salvador. We recovered 6 rifles and inflicted 10 casualties on the enemy.

Our revolutionary army is advancing throughout all the national territory. We have already reported that in San Agustin, Usulutan Department, the revolutionary forces continue to maintain absolute control over that position. Our forces recovered 16 M-16 rifles, 1 FAL rifle, 7 M-1 carbines, 2 Czechoslovak rifles and 1 .22-cal rifle for a total of 27 rifles recovered in San Agustin, from where enemy forces were dislodged. We recovered 6,000 rounds of various caliber ammunition.

Our armed people are driving the enemy crazy. Our urban commandos are active in Santa Ana. Our forces continue to seize enemy position in Chalatenango. They continue to seize enemy positions in Chalantenango. They continue to be active in San Vicente. They continue to be active in the southeast to dislodge the dictaorship's forces. Meanwhile, in Morazan, a revolutionary army faces four special battalions of the dictatorship. All of El Salvador is a battleground. Salvadorans, join the struggle!

Army Casualties in Morazan

PA290444 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The Morazan battle continues. So far, it is the largest concentration of elite forces of the dictatorship in this department. They have clashed with forces of the FMLN's Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade.

Twelve days ago, the military high command began the concentration of four special battalions in a desperate defensive attempt, trying to stop the overwhelming advance of the FMLN. After several days of hesitation, the four special battalions comprised of more than 6,000 men decided to advance. We warned that each meter they advanced would cost General Garcia dearly. Our warning is being fulfilled. We report to our people that in the past 48 hours, our forces have inflicted a large number of dead and wounded on the special battalions of the dictatorship.

[Words indistinct] General Garcia has resorted to the Honduran troops who continue to concentrate on the Salvadoran border, north of Morazan Department. Those troops come from the Honduran town of Marcala. On our part, we reiterate our determination to face and defeat any foreign intervention. We warned the enemy that if it advanced, if would be sorry that it made the irresponsible decision of sending its middle-level officers and soldiers to death and defeat. In Morazan the enemy has been able to concentrate all its forces trained and advised by the foreign interventionists, but the Salvadoran people are behind the liberation rifles with courage and determination.

Bombings Denounced

PA310315 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Your attention: This is a last minute report received at Radio Venceremos from Usulutan Department.

We have received reports from Usulutan cooroborating that the fascist clique is using the national army to massacre the people.

A dispatch sent by our companeros of the southeastern front says that forces of our revolutionary army placed the town of Berlin under siege at 0600 today. As a result of our advance, Air Force units -- an A-37 plane, a push-and-pull plane and another unidentified plane -- flew over Berlin all day, indiscriminately bombing the civilian population after failing to repel our forces. At the moment of writing this report, the enemy has launched from 50 to 60 rockets, many of which have hit buildings. The initial results of this massacre are 15 children and 4 adults killed, including a pregnant woman.

These planes are sent by Ronald Reagan and are today using the people of Berlin as targets. These are the orders followed by the fascist high command of U.S. imperialism.

We call the international media and humanitarian organizations to see the site of the massacre.

GUATEMALA

CGUP LEADER CITES GOVERNMENT 'REPRESSION'

PA272346 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Interview with (Carlos Mazariegos), member of Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr (Mazariegos), first we would like to know what is the role of the Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee [CGUP] in the struggle against the genocidal regime of Gen Efrain Rios Montt.

[Answer[Our committee is playing an important role at two levels: One, by focusing on the prevailing situation of the Guatemalan people, that is, in opposition to the genocidal policy of Gen Efrain Rios Montt; and two, by playing an important role as a broad and united organization in which different personalities from the country's organized sectors get together. This is presided over by Companero (Luis Carlos Tejera Gomez) and, as I said, it is composed of representative leaders of different Guatemalan organizations, principally peasants, workers, students and others.

[Question] (Mazariegos), you are on that committee as a representative of the Guatemalan labor class, right? In this respect, I would like to know how the worker live in Guatemala?

[Answer] The situation of the workers is more difficult than ever. We can see how the situation of the workers got worse after the sadly remembered General Lucas Garcia assumed power. This situation is even worse today due to the demagagic and repressive policy of Rois Montt. The epitome of his demagogy is to have the working class represented by false leaders in the council of state. One of these false leaders is (Juan Francisco Alfaro Mijano), a former board member of one of the country's principal labor centrals.

[Question] It is interesting to note that Efrain Rios Montt is using demagogy as one of his principal weapons.

[Answer] He uses this to improve his international image, where he is fairly isolated, with the object of gaining support and obtaining the aid he needs so much to continue repressing the people, who are mostly Indians, and to remain in power, as the privileged Army elements have been doing.

[Question] Nevertheless, (Mazariegos), reports indicate that tens of thousands have died in Guatemala recently, and that since Rios Montt's coup d'etat crime and the human rights violations have continued.

Just recently, U.S. human rights organizations denounced the imminent execution in Guatemala of four political prisoners. Three of these stand accused of being members of the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, one of the four political-military organizations that are struggling there. In this respect, I would like to hear your opinion of President Ronald Reagan's decision to resume military aid to Guatemala.

[Answer] Companero, I believe that these executions, just like the executions some time ago of other fighters of the Guatemalan people, have the sole purpose of legalizing murder by the regime. Every day people are murdered in Guatemala with impunity. Therefore, CGUP can never agree with this type of execution, much less with the legalization of crime.

On the other hand, what you said is true, that international organizations are opposed to these crimes. In the case of Guatemala, the economic and military aid being extended to the regime will serve to increase the pain of our people, to continue the massacre of complete villages, as has been happening since Rios Montt took power. He has even surpassed Lucas Garcia's actions. We reject and denounce this, and ask for the understanding of the various organizations, friendly peoples and revolutionary democratic governments to support us to try and prevent this aid from being given.

[Question] (Mazariegos), in spite of this U.S. support for the Guatemalan regime, and the violence, crime and repression that exist there, do you feel optimistic about the struggle?

[Answer] Yes, we do. Our people are traditionally fighters. They have been gaining much experience, although the social cost has been very high. For that reason, in spite of all the aid and the imperialist maneuvers, our people will never stop struggling. We are certain that our process will advance, that it is irreversible, that it will end in complete victory and that it will destroy these old unjust structures and open the path to a society that is just and peaceful.

[Question] Thank you, (Carlos Mazariegos), member of the Guatemalan Patriotic Unity Committee, for this interview granted to Radio Havana.

HONDURAS

COSTA RICA'S VOLIO VISITS; CITES SUMMIT PLAN

PA290211 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 3

[By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez yesterday disclosed the possibility of a summit meeting of foreign ministers, members of the Forum for Peace and Democracy, by the end of April of this year, in San Jose, Costa Rica. Volio Jimenez, who is in Tegucigalpa to attend a special ceremony given by the Honduran Government in his honor, praised the Honduran democratic system and President Roberto Suazo Cordova's statesmanship.

Volio Jimenez called himself "a pilgrim visiting a country he admires for what it is doing to strengthen the country's tranquillity and social justice."

Volio Jimenez also referred to a meeting on 17 February in San Jose of experts on political sciences and electoral processes in America, who will be in charge of drafting the statutes of the electoral law advisory and promotion center.

He regretted the attitude assumed by the Sandinist regime, which refused to hold a meeting in Nicaragua to discuss the forum's proposals and particularly the Honduran peace proposal.

Volio Jimenez said that he sent an invitation to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, and that he suggested that Nicaragua's position could be submitted to discussion, even if there is no formal document on it. Nevertheless, Volio Jimenez was optimistic about the Sandinists changing their mind and participating in the efforts for peace in the region.

According to Volio Jimenez, the regional peace plan will be promoted everywhere as a demonstration of the good will that prevails among the eight members of the Forum for Peace and Democracy, and of other countries that have expressed their desire to contribute to peace in Central America.

The Costa Rican foreign minister will be going to several Caribbean countries to talk to heads of state and foreign ministers about the interest of the members of the Forum for Peace and Democracy "to expand the number of members of the democratic club."

Volio Jimenez said that this will be achieved with or without Nicaragua's participation, because the democratic forces and governments are supporting this alliance.

Finally, he said that Costa Rica would not attend as an observer the Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers, because Costa Ricans have no experience in military matters, and that he hoped the maneuvers are not meant as a provocation or an attempt against peace in Central America.

SEVENTH POSSIBLE DEATH SQUAD VICTIM FOUND

PA280057 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Another presumed criminal has been found shot to death in San Pedro Sula. This makes seven. The regional police chief said that it is possible the criminals are being eliminated by a death squad. Another presumed criminal, approximately 23 years old, was found dead with six .38-caliber bullet wounds yesterday morning on the slope of Merendon hill in San Pedro Sula.

The victim was found by construction workers of the second stage of the Trejos colony. The body had six bullet wounds, five in the chest and one in the mouth. It was dressed in blue jeans, brown shoes and striped shirt. (Velardino Rivas), one of the construction workers, said that the body was found by a group of workers at 0800, and that 1 hour later public security agents and Red Cross workers took the body to the Leonardo Martinez hospital morgue. This makes seven persons who have been found mysteriously murdered in San Pedro Sula.

NICARAGUA

JUNTA APPEALS FOR 'GOOD SENSE' IN PEACE SEARCH

PA281945 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Through junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado, the Nicaraguan Government today reiterated its appeal for good sense on the part of the Reagan administration in order to eliminate the crisis in the area and to find mechanisms for establishing a dignified and lasting peace.

Ramirez said that the joint U.S.-Honduran miltiary maneuvers near our borders reflect U.S. President Reagan's nervousness over the fact that the Somozist units have failed to establish a foothold on Nicaraguan territory.

In addition, Companero Sergio Ramirez Mercado spoke in favor of an immediate negotiation of the Salvadoran conflict. Ramirez said that the United States is obviously uneasy over the failure of the U.S. military advisers in El Salvador and over the advance of the revolutionary forces, which are taking more and more territory every day.

DEFENSE MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON BORDER CLASHES

PA280511 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0247 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- A Defense Ministry source reported last night that the warlike climate at the border with Honduras along the "northern Zelaya" (Atlantic coast) strip had decreased today after the Nicaraguan Army repelled groups totalling some 400 anti-Sandinists.

According to the miltiary source, the opponents of the Sandinist regime, equipped with modern weapons, are once again back in Honduran territory, 12 km from the area where the U.S.-Honduran "Big Pine" military maneuvers will be held from 1-6 February.

However, the military spokesman told ACAN-EFE that the threat of new attacks "is still present" in that area of the border because the former Somozist guards are camped very near the Coco River, a waterway that serves as the border and which they cross to attack the Sandinist positions.

The source denied that during the recent clashes at the border -- in which 75 persons were killed (22 Sandinists and 53 counterrevolutionaries) -- the air force was used to bomb the "counterrevolutionaries."

The source told ACAN-EFE that the area and the type of armed clashes did not merit the use of rocket fired from airplanes. Military helicopters have been used only to evacuate the dead and wounded from the area, the source added.

The Defense Ministry spokesman said that "the ambushes were carried out in the mountainous and swampy areas near the Coco River. The twisting of the river makes the use of the air force difficult, because it could cause conflicts if Honduran territory was violated, and we are very careful in this regard." The Coco River is part of the national territory, and it is considered a military emergency zone where no civilian lives or enters because of the warlike situation at the border.

The clashes have occurred 1 and 7 km from the border with Honduras, which shows that the adversaries have not penetrated deep into this country's territory. Some of the 400 former Somozist guards entered Nicaragua through "Wisconsin" and "Santa Clara," carrying out diversionary attacks.

Another group, the largest one, tried to occupy "La Tronquera," the main population center northwest of Puerto Cabezas, after the Miskito towns located along the banks of the Coco River were evacuated by the Sandinist government. The counterrevolutionaries wanted to take over "La Tronquera" because it is an important lumber area and a military post and airstrip are located there.

However, an ambush by the anti-Sandinists before reaching the town revealed their presence in the area and prompted a mobilization of Nicaraguan troops. Three soldiers were killed in the ambush. It is known that the heaviest clash took place close to "Cabo Verde," where the army inflicted a large number of casualties on the invaders.

The military source said that "many wounded counterrevolutionaries crossed the river to die on Honduran soil."

Concluding, the Defense Ministry spokesman said that the concentration of former Somozist guardsmen 12 km from the area where the Honduran-U.S. maneuvers are going to take place "explain the support that the counterrevolutionaries receive," since they are active in an area that is under the military control of the U.S. and Honduran Armies.

From another quarter, while the latest reports indicate that the Sandinists have again repelled the Somozists, an official report today reported an armed clash in western Nicaragua a scant 70 km from Managua.

The clash, in which five anti-Sandinists were killed, took place Wednesday afternoon on the slopes of the El Hoyo volcano in Leon Department, which indicated the presence of anti-Sandinists in the Pacific area of the country.

COMMANDER BORGE DENIES HONDURAS-U.S. MANEUVERS

PA290223 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 83

["Beyond the News Reports" feature]

[Text] The voice of Germany, Radio Deutsche Welle, last night interviewed Commander Tomas Borge from Cologne, FRG. In answer to questions from the stations newsmen, Borge spoke emphatically and informatively about the many acts of aggression that are carried out from the border by counterrevolutionary bands, supported by certain sectors of the Honduran Army, with logistical support from the U.S. imperialists. Borge added that such attacks have intensified in the past few days, because the counterrevolutionaries are encouraged by the imminent Honduran-Yankee joint maneuvers that will take place in early February near our northern border.

TV COMMENTARY CRITICIZES REAGAN ADDRESS

FL271613 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1242 GMT 27 Jan 83

[International commentary by Oscar Ferrer from the staff of the "Revista de la Manana" program]

[Excerpts] We want to devote today's international commentary to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech to the U.S. Congress on Tuesday night when he presented his second state of the union address. On this occasion his message lacked the triumphant tone which characterized last year's January message.

Among other things, it is noticeable that this time the traditional message which U.S. Presidents present to Congress every January was given to an audience which greatly disagrees with the President's views and which is intensifying the harshness of its criticism of Reagan's policy.

The U.S. President's economic policy has recently contributed to an increase in Reagan's unpopularity as revealed by polls conducted by the Gallup and Louis Harris Institutes, the WASHINGTON POST, the NEW YORK TIMES and U.S. television networks.

In Tuesday's speech, Reagan asked U.S. citizens who are most seriously affected by the economic recession -- who constitute the majority of the U.S. population -- to have patience and courage in order to face what he described as a painful experience. Of course, Reagan didn't mention that this painful experience has been provoked by his administration's economic policy which has made the rich richer and the poor poorer ever since Reagan's arrival at the White House as charged by the democratic opposition and the U.S. media.

Although he admitted that the present U.S. economic situation is a painful period for many citizens among whom he mentioned industrial workers, black youths, working mothers, and so forth, the U.S. President didn't offer any solution, in a medium or long term, for millions of citizens who are affected by this critical economic situation which the Reagan policy has caused.

Reagan issued an appeal to congressmen to support what he called a new strategy which is not truly new and presented to Congress a program aimed at reducing the record budget deficit through new reductions in social expenditures. In other words, he has again made the same mistake he has been making ever since he arrived at the White House. The proposal of these reductions has precisely been one of the most highly criticized of Reagan's policies by U.S. citizens who have been most affected by cuts in social programs such as education, health care for the elderly, sick and poor pregnant women, food for needy people and so forth.

Reagan admitted that the economy is in trouble and in referring to the 12 million unemployed Americans, he noted that too many U.S. citizens are going through difficult times. However, he didn't say that it is his government which has provoked this increase in unemployment which, just in 1982, went from 9.2 million in January to more than 12 million in December of that year.

Despite the seriousness of the situation, Reagan insisted on not giving up the basic postulates of his economic policy which have caused the record deficit, increasing unemployment and recession. Thus he recommended a plan which basically envisages a freeze on government expenditures for 1 year. However, according to Reagan this can be attained through new reductions in social expenditures instead of cuts in the military budget which is what the American people and many U.S. politicians want. The military budget will be increased by 14 percent in the next budget. In contrast, the nonmilitary expenses will only be increased by 2 percent. In real terms, this is equivalent to a 3 percent drop, taking the existing U.S. inflation into consideration.

It must also be recalled that this constant increase in the military budget promoted by the Reagan administration has been a constant presidential policy. With this he is trying to reach a military superiority which would permit him to negotiate with the Soviet Union from positions of strength. However, he has failed in this because the USSR has rejected this sort of U.S. blackmail.

In his message to Congress, Reagan also described the present U.S. economic recession as dangerous and had to admit that the path to recovery is long. The serious situation of the U.S. economy cannot be hidden. It is characterized by a marked recession which includes the bankruptcy of many businesses, an alarming drop in industrial capacity, a decrease in the gross national product which dropped in 1982 to the lowest level since 1946, and a massive workers' dismissal.

As part of his plan to reduce the increasing fiscal deficit, Reagan proposed the approval of new emergency taxes beginning in the autumn of 1985. This proposal also shows the failure of his economic policy because Reagan had previously based his policy in the noncreation of new taxes. This contradicts what he had previously presented as positive.

Although his message was focused on the country's internal economic problems, Reagan made a brief reference to his foreign policy. He once more repeated his usual rhetoric placing conditions on U.S.-Soviet relations which cast doubt on the good will of the Soviet Union in nuclear arms talks while claiming, at the same time, to be prepared for a positive change in that area.

Reagan's policy and message to Congress was rejected before and after his speech. A few hours prior to his appearance before Congress, 150 people were arrested by police as they tried to gain access to Congress.

In sum, it can be said that Reagan didn't propose anything. He only resorted to his well-known intention to solve the critical situation with cuts in social expenditures instead of cutting large defense expenditures which are one of the main causes for the U.S. economic crisis.

COMMENTARY SEES PUERTO RICO AS 'YANKEE COLONY'

PA280050 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 26 Jan 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Puerto Rico, the so-called U.S. showcase in Latin America, lost its shiny display a long time ago. Today that Caribbean island is suffering the rigorous hardships of the worldwide crisis of capitalism that mainly affects the underdeveloped nations with free-market economies. The countries of our America are no exception.

Puerto Rico is a clear example of the serious socioeconomic situation experienced by the Latin American countries today. The island was turned into an example of the advantages of the so-called American way of life by the transnationals and the U.S. Government, and today that Yankee colony is experiencing a rapid economic deterioration. The situation turned especially dramatic when Ronald Reagan became President of the United States 2 years ago. Reagan and his staff drastically reduced the budget allocations traditionally granted to the island for social welfare programs and limited the investment plans for the so-called Commonwealth in free association. All this has negatively affected the Puerto Rican people and has brought about the collapse of the national economy.

The budget cuts decided by Washington have meant unemployment for tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans and have forced the colonial government, totally dependent on federal funds, to declare itself unable to face the crisis. It is believed that 25 percent of the economically active residents are unemployed. What is worse is that, according to official statistics announced in San Juan, this mass of unemployed persons has no hope of finding work within the next 6 months. It is expected that this phenomenon, far from decreasing, will continue getting worse in 1983. To this we have to add the migration of workers that has been going on for several decades, but now includes thousands of Puerto Rican professionals and technicians who are abandoning their country in search of a better life.

The status of Commonwealth in free association granted Puerto Rico in 1952 when Luis Munoz Marin became governor of the island is now unworkable. Trying to solve this discouraging situation, the colonial governors are now promoting the annexation of that Caribbean island by the United States.

Those who defend the capitalist system and those who believe that Puerto Rico continues to be a showcase for Latin America are trying to minimize the seriousness of the socioeconomic situation of the island. Each day more and more Puerto Ricans understand that this serious economic situation presently experienced by the country must stop. They understand that Puerto Rican society is as sick as U.S. society, and that the Puerto Rican people are even more exploited than the peoples of the metropolis.

This is why the case of colonialism in Puerto Rico continues to be examined at every important international forum around the world. It has acquired special importance at the United Nations and with the Nonaligned Movement, where the just struggle of this people for their independence and self-determination is defended.

HAVANA ON GUATEMALA'S 'CORRUPTION,' 'REPRESSION'

PA262014 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 25 Jan 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Guatemala's ruling military leaders are trying to solve the country's current economic, political and social crisis through repression. This is one of the major tactics employed by both the dictatorship and U.S. imperialism as part of the general counterinsurgency strategy with which they are trying to stop the people's increasing struggle and prolong the survival of the current structures of domination. The policy of generalized terror has gone on to occupy a major role in the Guatemalan state's actions intended to preserve the conditions of social injustice in which the Guatemalan people currently live.

The deterioration of the mechanisms for ideological control, the loss of confidence in the institutions that characterize the bourgeois political system and, above all, the revolutionary process' progress, have caused desperation among the oligarchy and the army's high-ranking officers. In view of this situation, these two corrupt social sectors advocate the establishment of fascism. This becomes evident in the systematic use of repression against all of the people's political and economic expressions, as well as the use of assassination and torture. For this reason, the Guatemalan dictatorship is allocating increasingly high sums to the military sector. This sector has top priority in the national budget, and the sum allocated to it surpasses by several million dollars the budgets allocated to public health and education, to mention only two of the most important and neediest sectors. It has been estimated that the Guatemalan regime invests over $250 million annually in its security. This figure represents an unprecedented increase in the country's history. To this one must add the numerous credits and the military aid that the United States gives to the dictatorship, which also total large sums of money.

The degree of decomposition of the Guatemaln power structures adds a note of corruption to the repression. The Guatemaln military and police forces are encouraged to exert repression on the people by the prospect of economic and social benefits and the possibility of obtaining posts in the institutions charged with the state's security. Thus, depending on the rank held by the person responsible for these criminal actions, his efficiency will be rewarded with either farms, bank shares, shops, restaurants, gas stations, bars or whorehouses located near army headquarters.

The repressive bodies are also closely connected to the drug traffic. The national police's so-called narcotics section not only represses the people but has been charged with distributing drugs. Its members often push marijuana, cocaine, LSD, heroin and other drugs. In most cases, the Guatemalan repressive agents perpetrate their criminal actions while completely drunk or under the influence of drugs, thus giving a particularly sadistic note to their actions. It is a well known fact that before each massacre the special counterinsurgency troops known as kaibiles drug themselves and go through psychological laboratories where they are completely desensitized and turned into mechanical creatures, into killing machines.

In view of this dramatic situation, the only path left open to the Guatemalan people is that of a revolutionary struggle. In the last 28 years, more than 100,000 of its better children have killed by despotic and pro-U.S. regimes. This gives an idea of the genocide to which this nation has been subjected. This is why the political platform announced by the Guatmalan National Revolutionary Unity stresses the fact that the revolution will put an end to the government's corruption and its repression of the people. The programs of their platform will also guarantee life and peace to the citizens, as both of these are supreme rights inherent to all human beings.

PIONEERS PAY TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL HERO MARTI

PA302020 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Headed by Fidel Castro, leader of the Cuban revolution, a parade was held this morning at Havana's Revolution Plaza. The parade honored our national hero Jose Marti on the 130th anniversary of his birth. The parade began with a ceremony at the monument of the nation's forefather in the plaza where 130 Pioneers each placed a floral wreath.

The parade followed. Some 85,000 persons, mostly Pioneers, participated. They were divided into 14 groups, each carrying a large poster containing phrases of our national hero and representing the cultural, sports, internationalist and other social activities of our people.

A large picture of guerrilla hero Ernesto Che Guevara was placed in front of the presidential stand, and throughout the parade, leaders of the Jose Marti Pioneers organization explained the significance of each group and read the political phrases said by Marti.

The magnificent act concluded with a march in which the people of Havana and its surroundings paraded in front of the state and political leadership of the nation thus giving witness to their determination and firm principles as well as to their irrevocable decision to build the new society at any cost.

BULGARIA'S TODOROV ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS

FL282240 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Stanko Todorov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of Bulgaria's National Assembly, departed today for his fatherland after a visit which lasted several days.

At the Jose Marti International Airport, Todorov was seen off by Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government; Jorge Lezcano, vice president of that body; and Faustino Perez, all members of the party Central Committee.

Prior to departure, Todorov told members of the press he was very gratified with his tour of our Caribbean island, which included Havana, Pinar del Rio, Isle of Youth and Holguin. He also expressed gratitude for the hospitality accorded to him and his delegation by the Cuban people. The Bulgarian leader voiced his enthusiasm for the meeting he held last night with Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

Others present at the air terminal to bid farewell to Todorov were Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the National Assembly, and (Oria Dinkov), charge d'affaires of Bulgaria's Embassy in Cuba.

ITU SECRETARY GENERAL MEETS WITH GARCIA FRIAS

FL271805 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Guillermo Garcia Frias, member of the party Politburo and minister of transportation, has met at the main offices of the Transportation Ministry with (Richard Edmund Butler), secretary general of the International Telecommunications Union, who is visiting our country. The distinguished visitor was accompanied by Pedro Guelmes Gonzalez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and minister of communications. During the meeting, the ministers discussed topics of interest in the communications field, this year being the international year of communications.

MONTANE MEETS WITH LIBYAN DELEGATION IN ALGERIA

FL281310 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Official Cuban and Libyan delegations visiting Algeria have held a fraternal meeting in Algiers. The two delegations reviewed the international situation, particularly that of the Levant and Central America.

The delegations were headed by Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo and chief of the PCC Central Committee General Department of Foreign Relations, and ('Umar al-Habibi), chairman of the Arab People's Congress [presidente del Congreso Popular Arabe]. The delegation headed by Montane has been on an official visit to Algeria for the past 3 days at the invitation of the National Liberation Front party.

LEVI FARAH IN ANGOLA FOR COOPERATION TALKS

FL282345 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda -- Levi Farah, Cuban minister in charge of construction abroad, has begun a tour of Angola's interior to visit the provinces of Huambo and Benguela. The Cuban official arrived in Luanda on 25 January accompanied by a delegation to examine, together with local authorities, bilateral cooperation agreements as well as general guidelines of cooperation to be observed in the future in the construction sector.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

PLANT GETS COMMITMENT TO REFINE NIGERIAN CRUDE

FL291900 Bridgetown CANA in English 1645 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Jan 29, CANA -- The Antigua and Barbuda Government says it has secured a commitment from Nigeria to allocate about 20,000 barrels of crude per day for refining here.

Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird, whose portfolio also includes energy, said the crude will be refined by the West Indies Oil Refinery which is jointly owned by the government and the National Petroleum Company of Bermuda.

Mr Bird said discussions on the price of the crude were continuing with the Nigerian National Petroleum Company, which will be responsible for shipping the crude to Antigua. However, he noted that St. Johns was seeking to negotiate a price which would allow the refinery to operate at a profit.

Meanwhile, the government is still seeking the accession of the St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines Governments to an Antigua and Barbuda initiated agreement which calls for a joint approach by member nations of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS) in applying for oil under the 1980 San Jose Accord.

Under the accord, Mexico and Venezuela agreed to provide Caribbean states, including Barbados and Jamaica, as well as a group of Central American states, with crude oil on concessional terms, with a third of the cost being returned to the purchasers as a soft loan.

The only OECS countries to have signed the proposal so far are St. Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat and Dominica. Anguilla, which is not an OECS member, has also signed.

Antigua and Barbuda is seeking to get the OECS to apply as a group under the San Jose Accord so that the crude could be refined here and then shipped to the other islands in the eastern Caribbean.

Last August, refining operations were halted because of a lack of crude, which company officials said the refinery could not afford at world prices.

The refinery, which restarted operations last April after a 10-year closure at a cost of 30 million U.S. dollars, has a capacity of 20,000 barrels of crude per day.

It has been meeting local requirements until now, while maintaining its permanent staff.

However, company officials have indicated that some temporary workers, up to 45, are expected to be laid off by the end of this month.

BARBADOS

FOREIGN MINISTER TULL COMMENTS ON TRIP TO CUBA

FL290012 Bridgetown CANA in English 2345 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 28, CANA -- Barbados and Cuba have signed a formal cultural agreement which will see the exchange of artists, scientists and educators, Foreign Minister Louis Tull announced here today.

Mr Tull, just back from an official five-day visit to Havana, said at a news conference that the agreement also provides for the exchange of educational, scientific and general information as well as for the intercourse of artists, writers, dancers, musicians and scholars.

"Long before the agreement was signed, there was a programme of exchanges between Cuba and Barbados," Mr Tull said, noting that in 1974, a Cuban national group had performed in Barbados and personnel from the University of the West Indies (UWI), including Barbadians, have visited Cuba to discuss medical research, so that the agreement was merely to formalise what was already in existence.

On the question of trade, Mr Tull noted that there was not an enormous amount of trade between Cuba and Barbados, although Barbados imports most of its cement from Cuba. Cuba, he said, is however, interested in exporting dairy products as well as poultry, especially eggs and baby chicks to Barbados. "But I was not in a position to make any commitment on these things," the minister said, "I will pass on the information that was brought to me to the Ministry of Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture to see to what extent we need to cooperate in this area, and, we will have to look into the possibilities to see what they want to buy from us.."

But Mr Tull said: "We have to bear in mind at this time that Cuba is very seriously strapped for hard currency and I doubt whether at this stage they would be in a position to increase their exports from non-Comecon (the communist states' Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) countries, but nonetheless, we will look into these things to see whether there is any basis for further cooperation".

On scholarships offered by Cuba to Barbados, Mr Tull pointed out that some scholarships has been offered to a small left-wing group -- the Movement for National Liberation (Monali) by the Communist Party of Cuba. However, he said, the Barbados Government believed that it had better machinery for the processing of scholarships from a Foreign Affairs Ministry or the Ministry of Education, which would be in a better position to process the offers in accordance with established procedures, he added.

The minister said this contention was accepted by the Cuban Government which took steps to regularise the position as suggested by Barbados. He added that the Barbados Foreign Affairs Ministry subsequently wrote the Cuban Government asking for the areas of study being offered several months ago but has not so far received a response.

The matter was not raised during the just-concluded visit to Havana, he said. Mr Tull also said that there was no discussion of Cuban representation in Barbados. He said the Cuban Government did not make any offer to set up a consulate or trade commission in Bridgetown.

"On the contrary, the minister of foreign affairs, Isidoro Malmierca, suggested that the Cuban ambassador to Barbados resident in Georgetown should be brought back to Havana and serve Barbados from there," he said. However, the minister said that the Barbados Government accepted the international norms in respect of representation and therefore would have to consider every application on its merits.

"We have no stated position on Cuban representation in Barbados," he said, "we have not got a position, contrary to the views of small minorities, that we would not have a Cuban Consulate, trade commission or whatever in Barbados". Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago established diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1972.